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# BIBLE MONITOR

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JANUARY 1, 1995

NO. 1

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## SUCCESS

If you would prosper in life  
And have good success,  
Then meditate on God's Word,  
Your life He will surely bless.  
Observe and do what He tells  
In His writings found,  
Then your feet shall be planted  
On a "higher ground."

Be strong and of good courage—  
God will not fail you.  
He will help you to succeed  
When His work you do.  
Choose to serve the Lord always;  
Walk with Him each day.  
His glory-light will guide you,  
Like the sunshine's ray.

-Irene Stout



## RELATIVE WORTH

We are all familiar with a child's lack of understanding. What is most valuable is not always apparent to a child. We have all heard about (or perhaps it has even happened to us) a child trading a dime for a nickel. The nickel seemed more valuable because it was larger than the dime. The worth of that coin was not determined by its size. The child lost half the value of his dime because he was unable to perceive anything of its value other than its size.

We can demonstrate the relative value of some common numbers. The numbers, "1", "10", and "100" are related to each other. Once we learn numerical relationships, we can perceive that not all numbers are equal, but some are ten or even one hundred times as large. This is very basic mathematics, but if we do not get this fundamental concept, we will never be able to compute correctly.

We can see that relative worth entered into the calculations made by those in charge of the ship that carried Paul, the prisoner, from Caesarea to Rome. Paul had wanted to proclaim the Gospel in Rome for a long time. The first part of the journey was uneventful, as the ship went from Caesarea to Myra. There it was necessary to find another ship to continue the journey. The ship chosen was carrying a load of wheat from Alexandria to Italy. This freighter was not a cruise ship. The centurion hired it to carry his band of soldiers and his prisoners, including Paul. After a stop in the Fair Havens, where Paul counseled them to remain for the winter, they pressed on to make a different harbor where they might have more enjoyable winter quarters. They never made it to the other harbor. While trying to

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reach it, a terrible hurricane arose upon the Mediterranean Sea. That storm, which lasted at least two weeks, severely damaged the ship and made all but Paul despair of reaching their destination. Paul had the assurance of God's angel that he would appear before Caesar. Not only would he survive but all who were on the ship with him would also survive if they would stay aboard the ship. After passing through the various dangers of the voyage, they completed their journey with a shipwreck on Malta.

When the ship was very sorely tried during that storm those on board made some decisions that reflected their view of the relative value of various things. When it appeared the ship could not survive the storm, they were willing to throw overboard some of the ships tackling. They surmised it would be better to destroy part of the ship if it would mean their safe arrival. A partially equipped ship that survived would be of greater value to them than a wholly rigged ship that sunk. Although the shipowner's livelihood depended on the safe delivery of his cargo of wheat, when all appeared lost, the wheat was thrown overboard in the hope that the lightened ship could better ride out the storm. These decisions were made because they recognized that the ship and the wheat were of less value than the two hundred and seventy-six lives onboard. They had a natural instinct that made them do all possible to save their lives. The ship and the wheat were not as valuable as their lives.

This is not an instinct limited to the sailors and soldiers of long ago. We still have this God-given instinct within us today. We are still appalled by the scenes of murder, rapine, abortion, and cruelty, whether connected with warfare, gangs or domestic violence. There is still a value placed upon human life, although that value seems to diminish as fewer people are interested in God's will for men.

The relative worth of various things should remind us that we should place higher values upon some things in life. Life itself has value because: 1. God created human beings, 2. He sent His Son to die to save their souls, and 3. He has established an eternal abode in Heaven, for those who will accept His Word and Way. Of even greater value than life is the eternal soul breathed within man by God. A life should be lived to secure the best for that soul throughout eternity.

Those on Paul's ship had to make some choices concerning what was most important to them. Their lives were more important than the ship and its cargo. For Paul and his companions, their souls were of even greater value because they recognized that God had paid a



high prize to redeem those souls.

In this new year, you need to make the right choices. You need to decide what is the most important thing that you have control over. Like the sailors you must choose whether to go down with the ship and its cargo, or whether you might do better to lighten up on your possessions and end up saving that which is most important. This could be the most important decision you make this year.

MCC

### **NEWNESS: BLESSING AND DANGER**

Romans 6:4, "Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life."

Romans 7:6, "But now we are delivered from the law, that being dead wherein we were held; that we should serve in newness of spirit, and not in the oldness of the letter."

Deuteronomy 32:17, "They sacrificed unto devils, not to God; to gods whom they knew not, to new gods that came newly up, whom your fathers feared not."

Acts 17:21, "(For all the Athenians and strangers which were there spent their time in nothing else, but either to tell, or to hear some new thing.)"

Once again, we are entering a new year. Should the Lord tarry, in a relative short period of time we will be entering a new century. Only a selected few individuals have the privilege of seeing such an event. Time, in itself, brings newness. It is a blessing in many ways. Most individuals see the arrival of a newborn baby as a blessing. It is a blessing to see that baby mature into a young child and then to a young adult and finally into a young man or woman. But there is also danger within this process. The physical danger of sickness and accidents is a reality we must live with.

What greater blessing is there than to see an individual enter into the stream of baptism and return a new creature in Christ? Yet there is the danger that the individual has never truly repented. While the Bible clearly teaches baptism for the remission of sin, it does not teach baptismal regeneration. This is why our Anabaptist forefathers wisely forsook the practice of infant baptism. There is also the danger that the one who has truly repented and forsaken Satan and all his evil ways will not walk in newness of life. The word "should" does not mean that this is optional, but it does mean that we have the free will not to do this if we so choose. Even so sickness or accident can take an individual into the realm of death at an early age, even so an

individual can die spiritually before reaching final maturity, which is a home in Heaven.

We should praise God that we are delivered from the law and have freedom in Christ. We can serve in newness of spirit. We are not bound by the ceremonial laws given to Israel. We have a relationship with God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit that the Old Testament Saints never experienced. But this newness is not license to live as we want. I John 2:3 informs us, "And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments." The next two verses make it even stronger. "He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him."

Like the Israelites, some within the earthly church have fallen victim to sacrificing to new gods that came newly up. While we are not bound by law of the Old Testament, we do not serve a new God. The God we serve is the same God that created the world in six literal days and rested on the seventh. He is the same God that called out Abraham and gave His blessing upon the nation of Israel as His chosen people. He is the same God that inspired the prophets to prophesy of a Redeemer and Savior and then brought it to pass.

Like the Athenians, the modern church spends much of its time in nothing else but either to tell or to hear of some new thing. All tradition has to be examined by Holy Scripture. Before we throw all tradition out we should investigate what replaces it! The newest trend we are aware of is a new type of worship, which, in reality, is not worship at all!

Yes, newness can be a blessing. Change is not always wrong. But when change takes us away from the things of God in place of drawing us closer to the Lord Jesus Christ they are a danger, to say the least.

Brother James M. Hite  
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## **XMAS OR CHRISTMAS?**

(Editor's Note: The following article is a little late for the 1994 Christmas season, but its lessons are applicable all year long. So it appears here for our encouragement throughout this year.)

I do not have much time for plays, dramas and so forth. May we let our minds wander as we read a hypothetical conversation between a husband and wife. I recognize this is not likely to be your home. My

purpose is to cause us to look at the season and how we celebrate Christmas.

Father:

(Reading the newspaper) "This is disgusting, XMAS Sale, why you would think that Christ has no part of Christmas. X'ed Him out... XMAS! (With a sound of disgust).

Mother:

Since you brought up the subject of Christmas, I would like to review my Christmas lists with you to see if I have missed anything. On the 23rd is your office Christmas party...I've ordered the hors d'oeuvres, the treats and the snacks for the party, but you will need to get the drinks.

Father:

I will be sure to get plenty of drinks...what's a Christmas party without getting thoroughly smashed? Why, last year at the Jones' party, we ran out of drinks by 10:30!

Mother:

You need to get the Christmas tree tomorrow on your way home from work. I am fixing up a wreath for the door, and I have gotten plenty of tinsel and decorations, and oh yes, you also need to put Santa and the reindeer up on the roof soon....

Father:

I hope the snow melts soon, the roof is pretty treacherous right now, but the children will really be disappointed if I do not get Santa up soon. I will put up the tree and the Santa tomorrow night, if I can get some help from John with the safety rope up on the roof.

Mother:

I ordered plenty of mistletoe and greens.

Father:

Good, last year Tom really made a fool out of himself under the mistletoe. He was so drunk... He really made some wild comments about Shema and the way that she was dressed, I wonder what they will be like this year? It was fun watching their antics.

Mother:

Our family get together will be at our place this year...and since it's Sunday, I will have to stay home from church in order to get the turkey, filling, mashed potatoes, sweet potatoes, cranberry salad,... and the rest of it done in time for lunch.

Father:

It's a real shame you have to miss church, the pastor usually has an excellent sermon on Christmas...and we really should get the children to church at least twice in a year. With all that work to be done, maybe I will skip church too and give you a hand at getting it ready.



Mother:

As far as the gifts,... You will be getting the computer for John, won't you?

Father:

Yeah,... Hey, look at this computer advertisement, a family multimedia special including a printer...only \$2695.00. Why it has a recipe program, a checkbook manager, and lots of great games. Listen to these titles! Dungeons and Dragons, Valley of the Gods, Demons on the Loose, Doom III, Space Invaders, Pagan Ultimate #8, Demon World, Faces of Evil, and a personal astrology and spiritual advisor program.

Mother:

Sounds interesting... But, do you think any of us will get much else done, other than playing with the games? I got Ralph's gifts, the Simulated Battle Combat Set, the Mighty Morph Power Ranger Set, The Super Blaster Mega Machine Gun, and The Super Street Fighter game and the knife that he wanted. I sure hope he does not try to hurt any body with the knife. I got a monster doll that is so ugly, that it's cute for Sophie, some rattles, and a couple of other toys. I also got several cute dresses with her astrological sign on them for her.

Father:

It sounds great... uh... with the \$1100.00 car repair bill today, how is the budget holding up? Are we going to be able to afford it as we thought?

Mother:

Well, some of the games and toys were more than I expected, but we got a new pre-approved credit card application in the mail today for \$4000.00. IF we get that we should be okay.

Father:

Sounds great, but does that make it our 19th or 20th credit card?

Mother:

No, I believe that it is our 23rd or 24th, if we count Sears and Penneys.

Father:

Oh well, what is another credit card...after all this is Christmas, a season of celebration and joy. What better things, other than parties and gifts, could we spend our money on? The purpose of Christ's coming was to bring happiness and joy wasn't it? We may as well get into the spirit of Christmas, and get all the fun that we can get!

With all the parties, gifts, celebrations, family gatherings, and busy activities of Christmas, have we too lost sight of the reality of Christmas? Is Christ honored by our activities and purchases during this season that is named in his honor? Many of the activities, which I



have listed above have nothing to do with his birth, and dishonor and mock the purpose of His coming. Yet we celebrate Christmas, forgetting the Christ of Christmas. Why don't we be honest and call it XMAS? Many of the gifts we purchase for our children are products of an evil society, honoring demons, witchcraft, lust, and so forth. Be careful of the games, music, toys, and so forth, which you purchase, they may well affect and desensitize the tender hearts of your children, opening them up to sinful activities. Many toys are based on a theme of violence, occult, or impurity. Items based on these themes have a major influence on our acceptance of these items in our lives. Because of this, they have no place in any home, much less a "Christian home".

Our Christmas gifts, and celebrations often mock the very purpose for which Christ came. We think of Christ as a messenger of Peace, yet we give gifts symbolizing violence and destruction. We think of Christ as a messenger of truth and light, yet we give gifts based on activities of evil spirits, occult, and demons. We think of Christ as the messenger of all that is good, yet many of the activities that occur at "Christmas parties" are manifestly evil.

Are we celebrating Christmas or XMAS? Subconsciously many have removed Christ and the spirit of worship from their lives. In my opinion, much of the celebration of Christmas by the world, has degraded to little more than what God must consider a blasphemous stench or XMAS. Christmas has become sheer mockery of Christ, by the very ones who would benefit from His salvation.

Christ came to bring the joy of salvation, the joy of serving and honoring Him. May our activities likewise honor Him during this season, or at any other time of the year. We should spend more time praising God and honoring and serving Him, and less time with the world partying, celebrating, doing things, or giving gifts that mock Christ. Christmas is a time when God gave us His Son, who came to redeem us from sin, and gave us a NEW Way of LIVING our life. May we keep our Christmas simple, Christ-honoring in all that we do. May our gifts, decorations, and activities all HONOR Christ and the purpose of His coming

Brother Rudy A. Shaffer

## **SIXTY YEARS AGO**

January 1, 1935

THE RICH MAN

J. A. Leckron

We believe the above subject ought to be put before the public more than it is, not to scare people into the church, but to make them

think or realize what the rich man had to contend with, and will have to contend with until the great judgment day when he and all others who do not obey the gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ leave this world. We would like to take a part of Luke 16:23 which reads as follows:

"And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments,..." Now some people think, and some of the popular preachers of this age say this is a parable, but Christ says, "There was a certain rich man," verse 19, not that there will be, or that there might be, but He makes it a positive fact that there was a certain rich man, and he was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day. Now after we find this is not a parable, then we want to find out what the rich man did. We will take what the rich man believed in when he was in hell in eighteen points.

First: He believed in mercy, for he said unto Abraham, "Father Abraham have mercy on me," verse 23, but when he was on earth he did not think about mercy on Lazarus, and that is the way with us sometimes - we forget God until something comes upon us to make us think.

Second: He believed in crying, verse 24, for he cried unto Abraham for mercy. Have any of us, my dear readers, been in that condition, that we felt like crying for mercy?

Third: He believed in prayer now, verse 27, for he prayed that Abraham should send Lazarus to his father's house to tell his five brethren not to come where he was. Now if this is a parable as some claim it is, then why did the rich man ask that something be done that his five brethren might get right with God, that they come not to this place of torment. Now if this is to be in the future, and at the end of the world, then what need would he have to pray that his five brethren should not come where he was? No, he was in Hell, and his five brethren were still here on earth, and he was interested in their welfare.

Fourth: He recognized leaders, verses 24 and 30, for he recognized Abraham as the chosen leader of God. I wonder if we recognize the leaders in the church today as we should; those that are real leaders; those that stand foursquare for Christ and the church; if we don't then we may be like the rich man in Hell, for we are going to the same place if we obey not the gospel.

Fifth: He believed in individual help, verse 24, for he asked for mercy; not for someone else, but for himself, for he wanted Lazarus to come and cool his tongue with some water, but it was too late.

Sixth: He believed in the salvation of his family now as he never did before; for he asked Lazarus to go back to earth and visit his five



brethren, and warn them that they should not come where he was, for he was tormented in those flames, and so forth. This ought to make us all think what we are doing for the saving of our families. Noah saved all his family, and we wonder how many of us are doing as well.

Seventh: He believed in giving relief, verse 24, for he wanted to be relieved of being tormented in those flames. Just think what an awful place the rich man was in, and how he suffered and is suffering at this present time, and will continue to suffer until the thousand years have expired, when he will be called forth to judgment and get his sentence which will be Depart from Me ye workers of iniquity, into everlasting fire, into the lake of fire and brimstone, a fire that cannot be quenched, where the wicked will not die, but will be burning throughout the ceaseless ages of a never ending eternity, so if we want real relief, let's get it while we are still here on earth and have time and opportunity to prepare to meet our God.

Eighth: He believed in repentance, verse 30, for he wanted Lazarus to go back and inform his brethren of the awful condition he was in, and thought they would repent if Lazarus would tell them.

Ninth: In the same verse he also believed in personal work, for he wanted Lazarus to go to them personally and warn them of the danger in not serving the Lord.

Tenth: He believed in different methods of working, for he thought if they would not listen to the people here on earth, they might listen to Lazarus if he would go back to them from the dead.

Eleventh: And in the same verse, verse 28, he believes it paid to testify for Christ, for he said, "that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment."

Twelfth: He also believed in a place of torment, for he is now experiencing the realities of a lost world, and he knows it is a place, even if some of the popular preachers of this day and age say there is no hell, or if even there is, it is not a place. Now while we have time and opportunity, let us all strive to shun that place hell, and strive to land in that better place.

Thirteenth: He believed in sending to others the news, that they might get right with God and not spend eternity in Hell as he now knows he will.

Fourteenth: He also believed in the resurrection now, but perhaps he looked at it lightly before, and paid no attention to it, just like some of us now are doing, verse 30, for he said, "but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent."

Fifteenth: He also believed in justice now, for you don't hear him say once, that you haven't treated me right Lord, or that you did not

give me a fair trial, no, but he now knows he is dealing with a just God, and knows he is reaping what he has sown. We sometimes think we do not get justice in the courts of our land, and the same in the church sometimes, but when we are dealing with God, we get justice, for he knows our every heart, and knows our thoughts even before they are expressed, and if we are faithful, we need not worry about the future.

Sixteenth: He also had faith now, that if some one would go and explain to his brethren the awful condition he was in, that they would repent and not come to where he was.

Seventeenth: He also had hope, for he hoped that something might be done to keep his brethren away from that place of torment.

Eighteenth: He also had love now, for he loved his brethren to that extent that he did not want them to come to that place of torment he was in, but to prepare for a better place, even if he could not be with them.

Brethren and sisters, are we as interested in our families and others as the rich man was for his five brethren after he had landed in Hell? Now if we believe the Bible as it teaches on this subject, we will have to believe that the moment after any of us draw our last breath here on earth we are either where the rich man was, or we are in paradise, a place of rest awaiting the first resurrection, and that will be at Christ's coming for the church, when the dead in Christ shall rise first then we that are living shall be changed, and together we will meet the Lord in the air, and ever be with the Lord.

But the wicked dead rise not until the thousand years have expired, they will be like the rich man, be in torment all these years until the judgment, and then put into the lake of fire and brimstone, which is the second death, which the Devil and his angels who have deceived them. Now my dear reader, if you want to know what is going to happen when Christ comes with His church to set up His kingdom, read the last chapter of Zachariah, and you will find some of the awful plagues that shall come to men.

Our prayer is that we all may strive to live a more consecrated life, that we may have right to the first and best resurrection, for on such the second death has no power.

## **THE DEVIL, ARCHENEMY OF OUR SOULS**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Jesus, the Son of God, gave His life upon the old Rugged Cross, that we might have right to the Tree of Life. The devil has done, and is doing, his best to deceive, to rob, and to destroy those rights. Today, as it has ever been since Adam and Eve's time, the devil is



doing his utmost to rob us of Heaven.

Webster defines devil as: Satan, chief evil spirit, archenemy and adversary of our soul.

His purpose is to cause a believer to renounce his faith in Jesus Christ. The devil does not want anyone to believe in Jesus. If someone does, the devil's next best strategy is to neutralize him spiritually so that he is ineffective as a witness for Jesus. The words, "devil" and "Satan" are used interchangeably.

#### The Bible's Descriptions of the Devil

Rev. 12:9, The devil is a deceiver.

Rev. 9:11, The devil is a destroyer.

John 8:44, The devil is a murderer.

John 8:44, The devil is a liar.

John 8:44, The devil is the father of lies. He abode not in the truth.

I Peter 5:8, The devil is a roaring lion.

I Peter 5:8, The devil is an adversary.

Revelation 9:11, The devil is an angel of the bottomless pit.

John 12:31, The devil is the prince of this world.

Isaiah 14:29, The devil is a serpent.

Revelation 20:2, The devil is Satan.

Ephesians 6:12, The devil is the ruler of darkness.

Luke 10:18, The devil is as lightning.

II Corinthians 4:4, The devil is the god of this world.

Revelation 20:2, The devil is a serpent.

Revelation 20:2, The devil is a dragon.

There are more names and descriptions given in God's Word

#### Some of the Devil's Works

The devil is the god of our world system. As such, he puts into place lies that the unsaved world accepts as truths. These lies permeate society and deludes them.

The devil is no novice. His doctrine is MATERIALISM. He wants people to have the tendency to be more concerned with material things than with Spiritual values. As Christians, if we are not careful, we will find ourselves in bondage to materialism, head-over-heels in debt. We will be found neglecting our families for the sake of professional goals and forgetting the Lord.

The goals we try to reach, materially are not what counts. Eternity is what counts. We must adjust our present priorities to reflect eternal values. Mark 8:36, "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?"

Matt. 13:38-39, (Summing up) The devil sowed tares among the good seed. He over-extends himself to destroy our hopes of Eternal life.

I Peter 5:8, "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour."

It was the devil who deceived Eve in the Garden of Eden.

Read Luke 4:13. Jesus was led by the Spirit, into the wilderness. For forty days and nights He ate nothing. He was hungry. The devil knew that would be a good time to tempt Him. He said to Jesus, "...command this stone that it be made bread." Jesus could have done it but did not. Instead, He quoted scripture, saying, "It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God."

Then the devil took Him unto a high mountain, where He could see all the kingdoms of this world. The devil promised Jesus he would give Him power and glory over all that Jesus saw, if He would worship him. (The devil told a lie, for he did not have all that to give.) John 8:44, Jesus speaking, "...he is a liar, and the father of it." Luke 4:9, "And Jesus answered and said unto him, Get thee behind me, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve."

Then the devil set Jesus on a pinnacle of the temple at Jerusalem. "If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down from hence: For it is written, He shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee: And in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone." "And Jesus answering said unto him, It is said, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God."

Then the devil departed from Him for a season. So he does with us, then he comes back with more temptations.

There are lessons to be learned from these three temptations.

The devil is powerful, but Christ is all powerful.

What the devil promises, he can not give.

Christ does not lie. His promises will be fulfilled.

We must pray for the help of the Lord to refuse to do what the devil wants us to do, as Jesus did.

We must be able to give scriptural reasons for not indulging in the devil's sins.

We must keep the devil behind us. We must keep ourselves unspotted from the world.

Pray that every professor of Christianity can be a Joshua, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

To be continued

Brother Paul R. Myers  
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**OBITUARY****CARL H. BROADWATER**

Bro. Carl Hayward Broadwater was born on February 28, 1909, in West Salisbury, Pennsylvania and departed from this life on Saturday, August 6, 1994, at 2:10 P.M. at his residence in York, Pennsylvania at the age of 85 years, 5 months and 9 days. His wife, Myrtle Broadwater, and his three children, Marvin Broadwater of Inman, South Carolina, Glendora Stump of York, Pennsylvania and Lula Catherine Cimini of Williamsport, Pennsylvania, were at his side when the Lord called him home. He is also survived by ten grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren.

Carl was baptized in the Savage River at Broadwater Chapel, Maryland, on November 4, 1933, by Brother Benjamin Lebo. On November 27, 1933, he was united in marriage to Myrtle Broadwater, also of Broadwater Chapel, Maryland. The couple celebrated their 60th Anniversary with family and friends in November 1993. Carl worked in the coal mines in Maryland for fourteen years before he moved to Pennsylvania, in 1954, where he worked as a carpenter until he retired. Carl also worked for the Lord as a minister in the Shrewsbury Congregation, Shrewsbury, Pennsylvania since 1962 and was subsequently ordained as an Elder in the church.

A viewing was held in York, Pennsylvania on August 8 and a second viewing took place in LaVale, Maryland on August 9. The funeral was held on August 10 at the Hafer Funeral Home, LaVale, Maryland. Elder Virgil Leatherman, Elder James Kegerreis, Elder Jacob Ness and Pastor Homer Beeman officiated at the services. Burial was in Rest Lawn Memorial Gardens, LaVale, Maryland.

The family thanks everyone who expressed their love for Dad and their own personal grief at Dad's passing. We took comfort from the many cards, flowers, and the food we received and, especially, from your flooding the gates of heaven with prayers for us. We know that there are many who miss him, as we do. Our sorrow, however, is lifted when we remember that Dad said, "I'll see you in gloryland." We would like to submit the following poem in memory of our husband, dad, grandfather and great-grandfather because we can hear him say the following words to us.:

**SAFELY HOME**

I am home in Heaven, dear ones;  
Oh, so happy and so bright!  
There is perfect joy and beauty  
In this everlasting light.

All the pain and grief is over,  
Every restless tossing passed;  
I am now at peace forever,  
Safely home in Heaven at last.

Did you wonder I so calmly  
Trode the valley of the shade?  
Oh! but Jesus' love illumined  
Every dark and fearful glade.

And He came Himself to meet me  
In that way so hard to tread;  
And with Jesus' arm to lean on,  
Could I have one doubt or dread?

Then you must not grieve so sorely,  
For I love you dearly still:  
Try to look beyond earth's shadows,  
Pray to trust our Father's Will

There is work still waiting for you,  
So you must not idly stand;  
Do it now, while life remaineth —  
You shall rest in Jesus' land.

When that work is all completed,  
He will gently call you Home;  
Oh, the rapture of that meeting,  
Oh, the joy to see you come!  
-Author Unknown

## NEWS ITEM

### ENGLEWOOD, OHIO

We are rejoicing that God's Spirit is still performing miracles. Daniel Frick, son of Bro. Glen and Sis. Shirley Frick, was born again November 13. Also, Brent and Kelly Cottrell were received into our midst by fellowship greeting. They are the parents of four sons.  
Sister Ruth Speicher, Cor.

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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXXIII

JANUARY 15, 1995

NO. 2

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## VALUE OF A MOMENT

At every motion of our breath,  
Life trembles on the brink of death;  
A taper's flame that upward turns,  
While downward to the dust it burns.

Moment by moment years are past,  
And one ere long will be our last;  
There is a point no eyes can see,  
Yet on it hangs eternity.

This is that moment—who shall tell,  
Whether it leads to heaven or hell?  
This is that moment—as we choose,  
Th' immortal soul we save, or lose.

Time past and time to come are not—  
Time present is our only lot;  
O God! henceforth our hearts incline,  
To seek no other love than thine.

-Montgomery



## IMMIGRATION

We realize that the most of the inhabitants of the United States, either came here from another country or are descendants of those who did. Only the Native Americans can claim to be permanent inhabitants. Even they may have been the original immigrants, coming even earlier from the Orient by the Bering Straits. So none of us can speak unhypocritically about those who immigrate today.

It is a popular opinion that the opportunity offered to our ancestors from Northern and Western Europe should be withheld from those who come from other parts of the world. Christians should be very careful to fulfill the Golden Rule. As we have been given the blessings of living in this most blessed of lands, we should be willing to share those blessings with others.

Would we have had the faith and endurance that our ancestors did when they faced the dangers of immigrating to this Land? We wonder if we would have left the familiar scenes of the Old World for the foreboding and dangerous scenes of an unknown land. Would we have had the faith and courage to bring our religious beliefs to William Penn's Woods and surrounding colonies? The first to come must have sent messages of encouragement to those who came afterward. Even after arriving here, the sea coast cities did not long provide the home they sought. Soon they moved inland where they could till the soil and plant not only their crops but their families and their churches. It was not long until they were found in the backcountry of the Middle Colonies.

There was a price demanded of these immigrants. They paid the price of separation from their families and loved ones in their

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THE BIBLE MONITOR

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homeland. They had to pay for their passage, which would have been a high price when compared to their financial situation. If they could not pay before they left their home, they could contract to pay for their passage through indentured servanthship after they arrived in America. They paid a price in the dangers of the Atlantic crossing. There were some especially dangerous times, when their small and fragile ships were tossed about by wind and waves. After a journey of several weeks, which often included suffering the want of fresh food and water as well as proper sanitation and privacy, they would land in a strange land among strange people, who had strange customs and languages. They so highly valued what they would receive at the end of this treacherous journey that they were willing to pay the demanded price.

As citizens of this land we are not apt to be looking to emigrate to another land. We feel quite comfortable here. Although all does not please us all the time, we can think of no better place to live.

But! We are going to make a change. We are going to have to leave this land. We are going to leave not only this country but this world. The death angel will call and we must respond. There will be no tie here that will be powerful enough to overwhelm that call. Our station or rank in this world will not matter a bit. There will be no appeal. When the summons comes we will go.

We will be as immigrants going to a strange and far land. The preparations that we have made for that journey will determine how that journey will end. Some immigrants after arriving in their new country, wish they could be back where they started. This will be the situation with all too many people when they have been summoned for their last journey. They will wish for more preparation time so they can change their destination. Alas! They failed to properly use the time and opportunity that was extended to them. They chose to fritter away their opportunities so now at that dark hour they will be found wanting and unqualified.

The time and opportunity are extended to humanity to prepare for that hour. There will be no appeal of the sentence of a righteous and holy Judge. Many helps have been provided for us so we can be prepared for that decisive hour. We have the declared Will of God in His Word. We have the record of His greatest Gift. We have the testimony of those who have tasted the joys of Christian living and service. We have the Holy Spirit who is willing to live within and lead us in His ways. All these things and more have been given to help us make the right choice and to live consistently with that choice.

We will be immigrating either to Heaven or Hell. There will be no



middle ground. The choice will be made during this life. We need to prepare according to our choice.

To which place do you intend to immigrate? Are you ready?

MCC

## **ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE**

### **Handling Grief**

Several years ago I presented a lesson for our Wednesday night Bible Study on the topic of grief. Several people have asked me for this information again and I feel led to share it with the readers of the Bible Monitor. I can assure you that none of us are above the need for special consideration and care when we are grieving the loss of a loved one. This process sometimes occurs, in addition, to those who break up a courtship relationship.

The STAGES OF GRIEF that everyone will experience at sometime in their life are as follows:

Stage 1: Shock and crying. Crying is right. It is the appropriate thing to do when the initial stage of grief is experienced. God has given you this release and whether you are male or female...you will need to express it in this way.

Stage 2: Guilt. Yes, you will feel guilt and you probably will not understand why. This stage occurs because you in some way feel responsible or involved in some special way through which you might have had some control.

Stage 3: Hostility. You must go through this stage also. You will want to turn it over to the Lord, but you will feel it. It need not destroy you or your relationship with Jesus and others.

Stage 4: Restless activity. I can remember when my mother passed away, I felt this emotion. I just did not feel settled at any time or under any circumstance. My mind just kept going back to memories, occasions and even the final days.

Stage 5: Usual life activities lose their importance. What you have enjoyed might well not be enjoyable at this time. You lose the vitality of living that you once had.

Stage 6: Identification with the deceased. You begin to look back and identify with the person in all that you say and do. You become "controlled" by the person who is no longer there.

**THE GRIEF PROCESS:** There are ten emotions that you WILL experience when the death of a loved one occurs. You must go through them because they are the emotions that God gave you. They will eventually fade. You will regain your life and live it in its normal course.

1. Shock
2. Emotional release
3. Depression and loneliness
4. Distress
5. Panic
6. Guilt
7. Hostility and resentment
8. Inability to return to usual activities
9. Hope
10. Struggle to affirm reality

These may take a shorter or longer time for a particular person, depending on many circumstances but the sequence will be real. If you recognize that they are normal, you can come through this most difficult of life's challenges with courage and hope.

If you are currently ministering to a bereaved person, remember that he or she needs: 1. Safe places 2. Safe people 3. Safe situations. These will all be helpful in the healing process.

How can you best minister to someone in the time of grief?

1. Begin where the bereaved person is. Do not try to put them into another psychological situation. They will be helped most fully when you can reach out to them at their level.

2. Clarify his or her expressed feelings with him.

3. Empathize.

4. Be sensitive to his feelings and do not say "too much." I can remember again, at my mother's death, an individual in insensitivity said, "Well, I have already had this happen in my life and you do not need to feel so bad." Too bad that this person was not sensitive to the feelings of others at this time of special need.

5. Do not use faulty reassurances with the person. Reassure in truth and prayerfully. Flippant remarks are more damaging than helpful.

We, as God's people, have a special opportunity and obligation to minister to people at this difficult time in their life. I pray that we will better understand how we might reach out to them with real comfort and help them through their grief.

Brother Len Wertz

## HE WILL SAVE US

"For the Lord is our judge, the Lord is our lawgiver, the Lord is our king; he will save us." Isaiah 33:22.

He will save us. His promises are true. Man will disappoint us every time, but God is true to His Word. In the beginning, God. This

statement is found in Genesis 1:1. But it is incomplete, you say. This writer maintains that no statement is more complete. In the beginning, God. We hardly realize the gravity, the importance, and, yea, the magnificence of that statement to take in His Lordship, His Kingship, and His Salvation. Our minds are too small to understand completely. Someday, if we have faith, we will understand better, when we are sitting at His feet.

He will save us. He is able. He paid the price to make it possible. Nothing is too hard for God. To some, these are just a bunch of clichés that mean nothing. I have heard the Lord and His work belittled and ridiculed. Some folks have seen others talk the talk, but apparently they did not walk the walk. How important it is to be a good example to everyone, nothing wavering. The importance of this cannot be over-emphasized.

The throne of God forever stands:

Grace is the scepter in His hands.

His laws and words are just and right:

Justice and grace are His delight.

David said, "I delight to do thy will, O my God:..." (Psalm 40:8). Paul said, "For I delight in the law of God after the inward man." (Rom. 7:22). The world, ignorant of many of the things of God, is not ignorant concerning the things that WE delight in. If we really believe the things we profess, it will be known of men.

The Lord is our judge. We must keep this thought ever before us. He is our lawgiver our king, our Saviour. All these things we must meditate upon. They are good in the night seasons: when our way is unclear. They are also good when all is right with us.

Save us, O God of our salvation. (I Chron. 16:35). These words sound as if they were written in desperation. Fortunately, He is there for us in the desperate times. But we must also be careful, lest we forget the Lord when we have eaten and art full. This is our nature, to forget the One who saves us. His salvation, when it is just a fact, it often becomes a commonplace fact.

It must, as it did to the writers of Holy Scripture, become a REVELATION. The difference between fact and Revelation is determined by how it is acted upon. When those professing faith are taken into the water to be baptized, the questions they are asked in the water are always answered in the affirmative. No one ever says, "no". Yet, many turn back after a while to the things of the world.

I know Bill Clinton is our president. If you asked me who our president is, I would give his name. Yet, I have never met him, so it is only a mere fact to me. If I knew the man, and his ways, and he truly



was a presidential man, and I had confidence in him, then my knowledge would be more than a simple fact.

We are asked if we believe that Jesus came into the world with a saving gospel. Some answer, "yes" because they read it in the Bible. To some it becomes MORE real as they progress. But to others it never is more than a mere fact. It never becomes a Revelation. To Paul, who met Jesus on the Damascus Road, it became a Revelation. For us, it takes wholeheartedness. In Jeremiah God says, you will find me if you search for me WITH ALL YOUR HEART. He will save us. Do we believe it? How much do we believe it? Do we believe it is enough to live it and to declare it to others?

Brother Lynn H. Miller

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## THE DEVIL, ARCHENEMY OF OUR SOUL

Continued from January 1, 1995 Issue

The devil sets snares (traps) in sneaky ways to catch men and women, boys and girls. And he knows how to bait them.

James 4:7, "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

Jesus was never over come by the devil. When we accepted Jesus' plan of salvation, in the baptismal water, we made a promise to God and men that we would renounce Satan (Devil) and all his pernicious (causing great injury, destruction, fatal) ways and practices of the world.

The following are some of the snares the devil sets to entrap thousands of people today, even many who profess Christianity.

Mark 10:19, Jesus speaking, "Thou knoweth the commandments,  
Do not commit ADULTERY,  
Do not KILL, Do not STEAL,  
Do not bear FALSE WITNESS,  
DEFRAUD NOT,..."

I Cor. 6:18a, "Flee FORNICATION."

All the above are SIN.

The newspapers, magazines and other media report regularly on the breaking of these commandments. The general public seems to feast on such sins, when they should raise their voices against them.

ADULTERY and FORNICATION are the SINS of the day. The devil has the participants eating out of his hand. Thousands of couples, UNMARRIED are living together - in SIN.

In I Cor. 6:9-10 we read, "Know ye not that the UNRIGHTEOUS

SHALL NOT INHERIT the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God."

The devil sets many baited snares and he entraps many people. If they continue to so live, they will receive sin's wages. Rom. 6:23b, "For the wages of sin is death."

God gave His only begotten Son to die on the Old Rugged Cross. By accepting His plan of salvation, and obeying His Word our sins will be forgiven.

The devil rules the world. John 18:36, "Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world:..."

Rom. 6:16, "Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?"

If we do not serve Christ, we are serving the devil.

Paul, the Apostle gives good advice to one who sincerely wants to live for Christ and the Church, which He purchased with His own blood. II Cor. 6:17-18, "Wherefore come out from among them, (the world) and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty."

If we are sons and daughters, we have a promised legacy. Rom. 8:17a, "And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ;"

Exodus 20:13, "Thou shalt not kill." Abortion, the destroying or killing of the fetus, is of the devil. It is wrong for the mother and wrong for the one who brings about the abortion. God pity any who have or assists in an abortion. This is a horrendous sin, which is prevalent in our day.

Illegitimacy is just as prevalent and just as sinful as abortion. They both are the result of illicit sex. All are contrary to scripture and are the works of the adversary of our soul.

We need to pray regularly to God for help to overcome the devil.

One of the things the world and some professed Christians need today is CLOTHES. Christians, male and female are to dress in modest (decent, unrevealing) clothing. Do not follow the foolish fashions of the world, which are inspired by the devil.

I Tim. 5:22b, "Keep thyself pure."

Rev. 2:10b, Jesus speaking, "be thou faithful unto death, and I will

give thee a crown of life.”

Brother Paul R. Myers  
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Canton, OH 44718

## THE WATERS OF MARAH

Exodus 15:23 “And when they came to Marah, they could not drink of the waters of Marah, for they were bitter: therefore the name of it was called Marah.”

The warning came while we were at our place of employment, DO NOT DRINK THE WATER. Later, we were to find out that not only was the water in that place polluted but our water at home and in several different localities. Unfortunately, the warning did not come soon enough for some individuals. The report was that there was much sickness because of the water and some were even hospitalized.

The warning not to drink the water from the water fountains was not because the company wanted to punish us or to deny us water, (in fact, in time, fresh bottled water was provided), but to save us distress. There is a need in the church to warn members not to drink the “polluted water” that is being offered. We are certain that the water company did not deliberately send polluted water into the homes and places of employment. They thought they were giving the same safe water they had always given. To our knowledge the exact source of the pollution was never discovered.

“Polluted water” was offered to the church at a very early stage. In Acts 20, we find the Apostle Paul giving the following warning, “Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.”

We would encourage all our elders and ministers to take heed of themselves. God will hold you responsible for the flock over which He has made you overseer. To no less a degree are we responsible for what we write or share as we teach a Sunday School class.

Paul says that we are responsible to feed the church of God, which Jesus Christ purchased with His own blood. You can go longer without food than you can without water, but both polluted water and



food are a danger to your health and perhaps even your life.

When it was discovered that the waters of Marah were not fit to drink, "... the people murmured against Moses, saying, What shall we drink?" There were times when the Israelites murmured against God and Moses without just cause. But in this case they were within their right. They needed pure water to live.

Not only are we expected to provide safety against the grievous wolves who enter in but we are also expected to provide fresh water for the flock. A, so called, higher criticism entered the church several years ago and it has torn the flock to pieces as well as given it polluted water. Very often in a very subtle way, and sometimes in a very open way, an attack is made on the Bible and the historic understanding of what it contains. Down through the years signs have accompanied this deadly enemy of truth. Theatrics in the pulpit replaced strong preaching. Doctrine and tradition became something to avoid rather than to defend.

While we are to respect our elders and ministers, we must be careful that we do not worship them. Paul's warning that "Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things,..." is as true today as it was then. As with the water company mentioned earlier, most of these will not intentionally give us "Polluted Water." They may not realize that the "Water" they have received from the radio program or a magazine is polluted.

Jesus Christ and the Holy Bible offer pure water to your thirsty soul. May each desire to come and drink freely thereof.

Brother James M. Hite  
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## **SIXTY YEARS AGO**

January 15, 1935

### **OUR DUTY HERE**

L. W. Beery

It is evident that our Maker did not place the human family on this earth without a purpose. Of all the created things, there are none but what have their sphere of action, their mission in this world. The birds, the beasts, the creeping things, the fishes of the sea all fill a place in this world and have a work to do. Then surely, man the crowning glory of all creation was not placed here for naught. In Rev. 4:11, the declaration of the four and twenty elders that surrounded the throne is this, "Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory, honor and

power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created." It can be understood from this that all things were created for the purpose of pleasing God.

After the work of creation had been finished, "God saw every thing that he had made and, behold, it was very good." Thus we find that everything as it was created pleased God. All of these created things honored and glorified their Maker as long as they continued as they were created. Man, the one created "in the image of God" in whose nostrils God breathed the breath of life so that he became a living soul, was endued with great intelligence and ability.

"And God blessed them, and God said unto them, be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth." (Gen. 1:28.)

It was also intended that man was to dress and keep the garden of Eden into which God placed him. The only restriction placed on man was that he should not partake of the fruit of one tree. As long as man fulfilled his mission by being submissive and obedient to his Maker all went well; we find however, that when he was tempted, he harkened unto the voice of his wife and transgressed the commandment of the Lord. This was displeasing to God and the human family has suffered the consequences of this sin ever since. We rejoice, however, that God did not cast us off utterly, but provided a way whereby we can still honor and glorify our Maker and live pleasing in His sight.

Even though the human family has sinned and fallen from their original state of purity it is still their mission on earth to honor and glorify the God who created them. The first step toward fulfilling this mission is for us to acknowledge that we have sinned, confess our sins and submit to the plan of redemption extended to us by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This will make of us new creatures for "if we confess our sins he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and the cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9.)

We should then present our bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is our reasonable service. This service consists in walking in harmony with all the commandments, statutes and ordinances of the Lord as given to us in the gospel. A life that is yielded to the will of the Lord is a life that is a blessing in this world and it will redound to the honor and glory of God. Such a life is spent in laboring with our hands to provide for ourselves the necessities of life in striving to uphold the word of God in its primitive purity and the upbuilding of the kingdom of God here below, in ministering to the



poor and needy, in visiting the widows and orphans, in keeping ourselves unspotted from this world and doing good to all men as we have opportunity. "But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased." (Heb. 13:16.)

A wise man of old and one with a wide experience has left us this conclusion, "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments; for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil." (Ecc. 12:13-14.)

Inasmuch as it is revealed so clearly to us what our duty in life is may we all strive through the coming year to more acceptably fulfill our mission in this world.

## **OUR SATURDAY NIGHT**

### **Entering Jerusalem**

**J. H. Moore**

One beautiful Saturday morning, in company with others, I rode out of our camp in Palestine, descended a steep hill to the east, and then turned up a deep valley to the south. The ride in the fresh morning air was delightful. We were not only passing over ground made sacred by Bible events, but we were in a land made charming by the hills, valleys, plains and brooks. We were among the mountains of Ephraim, and were comforted with the thought that this was to be our last day on horseback before reaching the Holy City.

From the deep valley we ascended, passing up higher from first one fertile valley to another, until the top of a lofty range was reached. Here our dragoman stopped, and we drew rein by his side. He then stretched his hand to the south and said, "Take your first look at the City of Jerusalem." Sure enough, there was the City of Jerusalem in the distance. I sat upon my horse and took a long look at the city made famous by Bible characters. Had it not been pointed out I would have recognized it at first sight, though sixteen miles away. The Mount of Olives on the east was plainly visible. Then between the city and the Mount I could also see the Valley of Jehoshaphat. Glancing to the southeast there was the great Valley of the Jordan spread out, stretching away to the south. The north end of the Dead Sea was in sight, while just below us, and about one mile to the south, was the little village of Bethel, where Jacob once slept and dreamed. Here he saw, in a vision, a ladder reaching from earth to heaven and the angels ascending and descending.

Surely I was on holy ground, and could but look and think. I had



traveled thousands of miles, both on the land and on the sea, that I might look upon the city made sacred to me by the lives of holy men and women. At the age of twelve years I had read my first account of the city, and had since read nearly everything treating of the place, on which I could lay my hands. For years I had longed to visit the Holy City, walk her streets and study her surroundings.

And now, for the first time, my eyes beheld what was left of the once most charming city in the eastern world. Was it a vision, or was it a reality! It seemed almost like a vision in the night. It was near here that Jacob had the most comforting vision of his life. It left on his mind a picture that never faded. In the hours of distress he could close his eyes and behold the ladder and the angels. Mine was not a vision. It was a happy reality, and yet it left a picture that changes not, and is ever present.

Our company rode down into the village of Bethel, and then on to Jerusalem, the city being in sight most of the time. In the afternoon we reached a point just to the north of the Damascus Gate, leaving Calvary a few hundred feet to the east. Here I looked for the first time upon the place where wicked men crucified the Lord of glory. We probably occupied the place where thousands stood that memorable Friday afternoon, and witnessed the greatest tragedy the world has ever known. Darkness fell upon the whole region, sadness filled the hearts of hundreds of earnest disciples, and sorrow reigned in heaven while the multitude stood and looked on in amazement. We rode away from the spot, and on that Saturday evening had the pleasure of entering the City of the Great King. May we all be so fortunate, in the evening of life, as to be permitted to enter the Jerusalem that is above!

## THE GREATEST OF KINGDOMS

Matt.22:2, "The kingdom of heaven is like unto a certain king, which made a marriage for his son."

This parable is spoken by Jesus, showing there will be a wedding when the time comes.

Jesus has sent forth his servants to seek and to save the lost, to preach the word, to invite them to accept Him as their savior, and prepare for the marriage of the Lamb. Many are called and the invitations are given. Many people do not accept Him as their Lord and Savior.

They are not preparing for the wedding, but the ones who accept Jesus as their savior, are preparing for the wedding garment. The

Christians are looking for the return of Jesus to take them as the bride. (His Church which is the true bride.)

Matt 22:10, "So those servants went out into the highways, and gathered together all as many as they found, both bad and good: and the wedding was furnished with guests."

Matt.22:11, "And when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment." The man who did not have on a wedding garment was one who had not accepted Jesus as his savior.

Matt.22:13-14 Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into the outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. For many are called, but few are chosen."

Brother Lester Bittinger  
RR 2 Box 120 E  
Mt. Solon, VA. 22843

### **DRIVING AS A CHRISTIAN ON THE HIGHWAY**

Every day we read about somebody who has been killed on the highway. I wonder who is to blame.

Do we start so we have plenty of time to reach our destination on time? We all have a great responsibility as we sit behind the wheel. I often wonder what would happen if we were under Israel's responsibility, as given in the Old Testament. Exodus 22:6. I believe we would be more careful and more concerned, if this Law were in effect today. I think every since the creation, God's theme has been to have men and women understand that each person is responsible to be thoughtful of others. We read in God's Holy Word that we are to be courteous, careful, wise as serpents, and harmless as doves. We should be thinking more highly of others than ourselves. How many of us are practicing this as we drive our cars, vans, trucks and campers? I wonder what would happen if the government would outlaw insurance and replace it with the Old Testament law of life for life.

If you get sleepy, stop at the side of the road and sleep awhile. Never drive and have a person asleep on the front seat. That sometimes will cause you to get sleepy. Do we have to break the law because we did not start on time? Don't you know you are responsible before God? When people ride in a car everybody should be wide awake and help the driver. So many lose their lives because someone fell asleep. Be alert when you are driving for the life that is lost may not be some one else's life, but yours.

Sister E. M. Alltus



## NEWS ITEM

### APOLOGY, EXPLANATION AND THANKS

I take this avenue to apologize to the many people who are so patiently waiting for a copy of the 1994 General Conference Minutes of the Dunkard Brethren Church.

When I accepted the responsibility as writing clerk of General Conference 1994, I had already been through several examinations and many tests awaiting final reports from the doctors. At that point in time it was thought there was a 95% chance of cancer in my right lung. Upon arriving home from Conference we were told the "mass" was the bad kind and would need to be removed. Surgery was scheduled for July 8th. All went well, but Yours Truly didn't realize that it was going to be nearly four months before he was going to be able to undertake a project of such a magnitude as assembling all the information that goes into the General Conference Minutes. (Some of us do not like to admit that we do not recoup as fast as we once did.) At this writing the work has been to the printers, now the proofs are in the hands of the officers of General Conference for their reviewing. Next steps are: back to the printers, packaging and mailing.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all the folks who offered prayers on behalf of this Brother. Just prior to surgery I experienced a relaxed spirit such as I have never known before. Even though the Doctor did not say so, one could tell that he was interested in this relaxed attitude. Just before entering into the operating room he asked, "How are you doing?" I said "OK." He said, "Are you ready?" I said, "Yes." You see, what I was to find out later, was, there were prayer chains going on all over the country for Gene, and those prayers were being answered. Praise the Lord for His comforting Spirit! I was back to the Doctor last week for a checkup and the report was GOOD! Thank the Lord for answered prayers! Thank you, Brothers and Sisters and friends, from all over the Brotherhood for Prayers, cards (hundreds of them) telephone calls, words of encouragement and visits. God Bless you and keep up the good work.

Brother Gene Kauffman

### DAYTON, VIRGINIA

For those who will be enquiring about the place of Dayton's Sunday School from January to March, 1995, the correct telephone number for Brother Lester Bittinger is 703-350-2097.



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## **ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR FEBRUARY 1995**

February 5 - Stubble Instead of Straw - Exodus 5:1-23.

1. Who is the Lord that we should obey His voice?
2. Why did God allow the further oppression of His people?

February 12 - God Speaks Unto Moses And Aaron - Exodus 6:1-30.

1. What did God's covenant with His people include?
2. Why did not the children of Israel hearken unto Moses?

February 19 - Moses and Aaron Before Pharaoh - Exodus 7:1-18.

1. For what purpose did God harden Pharaoh's heart?
2. How did God show His final authority through Aaron's rod?

February 26 - River Nile Turned To Blood - Exodus 7:19-25.

1. Of what importance was the Nile River to the Egyptians?
2. Compare this blood to the blood that delivered.

## **YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR FEBRUARY 1995**

February 5 - The Two Ways - Matt. 7:13-21, I John 4:4-6.

1. Who can enter the Kingdom of Heaven through the strait gate and the narrow way?
2. How can we know the Spirit of truth?

February 12 - Spiritual Plants - Matt. 15:13-20, John 15:2-6.

1. What does it mean to be planted by God?
2. How does God purge a Spiritual branch on His vine?

February 19 - Feeding Four Thousand - Matt. 15:30-39, Mark 8:1-9.

1. Who received the glory through the miracles of Jesus?
2. Why did not Jesus feed the multitude the first day?

February 26 - Kindness!!! - Rom. 12:9-10, I Cor. 13:4, Eph. 4:31-32,  
Col. 3:12-17.

1. Why should we be kind one to another?
2. Explain the link between charity and kindness?

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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXXIII

FEBRUARY 1, 1995

NO. 3

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## WORTHY IS THE LAMB

Behold the glories of the Lamb,  
Amid his Father's throne;  
Prepare new honors for his name,  
And songs before unknown.

Let elders worship at his feet,  
The Church adore around,  
With vials full of odors sweet,  
And harps of sweeter sound.

Those are the pray'rs of all the saints,  
And these the hymns they raise:  
Jesus is kind to our complaints,  
He loves to hear our praise.

Thou hast redeem'd our souls with blood,  
Hast set the pris'ners free—  
Hast made us kings and priests to God,  
And we shall reign with thee.

-Isaac Watts

## HERO WORSHIP

At the height of the Gulf War, the popularity of President George Bush was very high, yet less than two years later he was soundly defeated for reelection. In 1992, Bill Clinton was elected to replace George Bush. In 1994 the party of Bill Clinton suffered a humiliating defeat, which has been blamed on him. These two recent examples illustrate how fickle popularity can be. Both men stood high in the estimation of the American public for at least a few weeks or months, but later that popularity melted away.

That is a danger of worshipping human beings. The one who is thought to be unrepachable one day will be faulted the next. People change their minds about what or whom they like.

Sports heroes may be the most fickle of all. One good season in any sport does not guarantee a successful career. Many who have had a brilliant year will fade away. There may be many reasons. Many youngsters look up to the professional athletes, but their heroes may turn into characters unworthy of adulation. The lives of many professional athletes are not what they should be, because of immorality and addictions to harmful substances. Many have not maintained their marriage and family life.

Many people look up to business leaders as their heroes. They equate money with success. They see people who have built large fortunes. Some by immoral and illegal means, others have become prosperous by legitimate means, but use their money to please themselves. There have been many businessmen who have become famous and even emulated. People, who see what these businessmen have accomplished, will try to follow in their footsteps. Even if their methods of wealth accumulation are moral and legal, others may not be able to do the same things. There are many variables that can affect the success of each one.

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## THE BIBLE MONITOR

FEBRUARY 1, 1995

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There have been a number of heroes, who seemed anointed by God, but have fallen. There have been many Spiritual leaders, who after enjoying a season of popularity and influence, have been shown to be unfaithful servants of God. While popular, many things were overlooked by even very conservative people. In looking back, some of their errors could be seen more clearly. Their teachings tended to be those popular with their followers. They would skirt Biblical issues that would affect their popularity. Often they became wealthy from contributions. Some were wolves hiding in sheep's clothing. While they preached a conservative gospel, their personal lives did not match their teachings or the Bible's. They often emphasized the gaining of earthly treasures more than the laying up of Heavenly Treasures. These leaders enjoyed several years of popularity, but eventually their downfall came. It usually began with a small incident, often related to money or property. As investigations were made, their failures were brought to light. Some had committed illegal acts and were eventually sent to prison by the civil authorities. Others committed immoral acts that created a bad impression of all Spiritual leaders.

All these examples point out the fallacy of worshipping human beings. Even the best-intentioned person can lead others astray by inadvertence. Others will knowingly lead others astray to gain notoriety or wealth. Satan uses whom he can to harm the reputation of the Church and her members.

If these heroes have been made of clay, is there any who can be trusted? Yes! There is One who is worthy of our worship and reverence. The Son of God left the beauties of Heaven to dwell upon Earth. While here He lived a perfect life. There was no leading astray by plan or inadvertence. Being perfect, He would become the only possible substitute for men's sins. Not another person on the earth, since creation, could have accomplished what He did.

We do not need to fear that He will lead us astray. It is His goal to lead us to the Father. He will lead us, as no other can, to the mansions He has prepared for His prepared people in Heaven. He is worthy of our worship as no other person is.

Whom do you worship? Has the object of your adoration proven to be faithful and honest? Be sure the One you worship is Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

MCC

## SIXTY YEARS AGO

February 1, 1995  
THE INHERITANCE  
B. F. Masterson

"To an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven, for you." (I Pet. 1:4.)

The young Bible student is seeking in his Bible for the hard questions and puts them to his senior, such as where Cain got his wife, and so forth. But the veteran of the cross, who has served his Master for many

years, who will soon exchange the present for the promised inheritance which is reserved for him in heaven, is seeking for the promises of the future in his Bible and seeking the description of the beautiful city of the New Jerusalem which he soon expects to occupy, and when he finds it in the end of the book, he is made to exclaim with Peter, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to His abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you.

The language is so direct, so personal, leaves no room for doubt. "Faith is the substance of things hoped for the evidence of things not seen." But I am so unworthy. Yes, but here is where Satan wants to rob us of our faith in the promises.

At the close of our life on earth, Satan knowing full well that we are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation, and if he could rob us of our faith in His promises and turn our eyes away from Christ on the cross, who died for our sins and rose again for our justification and ascended into heaven entered into the sanctuary above, which is the real, our great High Priest, with His own blood interceding for our sins.

We must hold fast and not let go our faith in His blood as perfigured under the law. The Father wants us to have a full assurance of faith in His promise.

Paul said to the Hebrews, "We desire that every one of you do show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope unto the end." He says to the Corinthians, "For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God an house not made with hands eternal in the heavens."

When Peter wrote his first epistle he was about thirty-three years in the ministry, his faith was established, his hope was confirmed by the resurrection of Jesus Christ. My hope is based on nothing less.

Before I came to California I was eagerly looking for literature describing California, but when I arrived here I found that the half had not been told. When I returned east on a visit I tried to tell my friends all about it, but they could not comprehend—they had not read up on it; they were not prepared to receive the truth about it.

There is one who was there, saw and occupied the inheritance that is reserved for us, brethren, He is our Elder Brother. He says, "He that cometh from above is above all, he that is of the earth is earthly, and speaketh of the earth; He that cometh from heaven is above all, and what He hath seen and heard that He testifieth and no man receiveth His testimony. He that receiveth His testimony hath set his seal that God is true." (John 3:31-33.)

He speaks of a class that did not believe Him, the observation of those go not beyond this little earth. O how narrow are the ungodly. Such are not prepared to receive the birth, not having faith in God's



word his surroundings are very limited. He is attached to this little earth—not so with the one who sets to his seal that God is true.

David said, "O that I had wings like a dove, for then would I fly away and be at rest." (Ps. 55:6.) He knew that there was a better place than this. "There remaineth therefore a rest for the children of God." It is the Christian's privilege to soar on the wings of faith far above the corruptible, the defiled and fading, to explore the land that is fairer than day.

"Things that are seen are temporal, things that are not seen are eternal."

Our text implies that our present dwelling place is corruptible, defiled and fadeth away. It has the germ of dissolution in it and must dissolve sooner or later. All this presupposes a home beyond this that is incorruptible, undefiled and that fadeth not. "For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made." (Rom. 1:20.)

Then the material things are defiled or has in it the germ of dissolution. This presents a gloomy picture. In our experience it comes home to us how that the Lord did not only say, "The day thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die," but He also said, "Cursed is the ground for thy sake, in sorrow shalt thou eat of it, all the days of thy life. Thorns and thistles shall it bring forth to thee. In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, until thou return unto the ground."

Here is where the germ of corruption was imbedded. It is thus by contrast that we learn the true condition of our inheritance. It is the condition where the germ of corruption brought about because sin is removed.

Notice the contrast. The first brought gloom and darkness. The second light. The first brought sorrow; the second joy. The first misery; the second happiness; the first death, the second glorification; the first mortality, the second immortality.

Notice this organism of ours, in youth in the bloom of beauty and health within it is hid the germ of corruption that will bring it to dust, what must it be when this corruptible shall put on incorruption and this mortal shall put on immortality?

Then the saying shall come to pass. "Death is swallowed up in victory."

Let us, dear brethren, arise from our gloomy life through Jesus Christ, to the highest plain, "Who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ," where is born the imagination of heaven, where heaves the breast with emotion, the origin of that which is pure and holy and shall not perish.

Heaven kisses the earth at its highest altitude, ten thousand feet above sea level on Mount Hermon, so I must ascend to the highest spiritual altitude, above all that which is impure and unholy, that I might gain heaven's sweet impression. How? How? Paul says through faith; James says by works; Peter says hope; John says, love; Jude says, perseverance. Sing "On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand."



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## EDITORIAL POLICY

That it be the policy of the Bible Monitor to exclude controversial material and material opposing, questioning or reflecting on the decisions or positions of the Church as determined by the General Conference or derogatory thereto. Also all other material not of proper standard or spiritual value for a church paper.

That supervision over the matter to be published in the Bible Monitor be exercised by the Publication Board.

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## SUGGESTIONS TO CONTRIBUTORS

We are submitting several suggestions as a help to contributors in preparing material for the Bible Monitor. These suggestions will also make the work easier for both the editor and the writer.

1. Become familiar with the Editorial Policy and do not use subjects or statements which conflict with this plan of the the Bible Monitor.

2. Place your name and address at the close of the article. We deem it more appropriate to sign as Brother or Sister.

3. Do not make sentences too long. A number of short sentences are better than a long involved sentence, which is difficult to punctuate and in which the real meaning of the writer's thought may be lost.

4. It will be appreciated if you gather a particular thought or thoughts and their proving Scripture quotations into paragraphs. Set these apart from the rest of the article by setting in the first line of each paragraph about the space of three letters

5. Do not crowd your words or punctuation marks close together. Do not use slang or abbreviated words such as, "thot" for "thought", "2" for "two", "&" for "and", "etc." for "and so forth".

6. Write or type on one side of the paper only. Double spacing of lines is much preferred. Do not make the lines the full width of the sheet, leave at least a one inch margin on each side of the sheet.

7. Use direct quotations for the Scripture references. Please copy wording and punctuation just as it appears in the King James Version of the Bible. Given thus: book, chapter, and verse. "Jesus wept." John 11:35.

8. Frequent mistakes we find: "beleive" for "believe"; "recieve" for "receive"; "ore" for "or"; "&" for "and".

9. In submitting selected material, give the name of the author and publication in which it appeared, if known, and add "selected by" and your name.

10. To be certain that an item is in a certain issue, your editor should have this item at least thirty days prior to the date of that issue.

11. The Publication Board has decided that News Items should contain material of general interest to the Brotherhood. Therefore items of only local interest should not be included in News Items, such as local Sunday School officers, District Meeting delegates, minor local church property improvements and items, "In Memoriam".

12. Read these, then write.

## FIXED COMMUNION DATES

Third Sat. March - Quinter, KS  
 First Sat. April - Dallas Center, IA  
 Last Sat. April - Grandview, MO  
 Last Sun. April - Bethel, PA  
 First Sat. May - Pleasant Home, CA  
 First Sun. May - Waynesboro, PA  
 Third Sat. May - Dayton, VA  
 Third Sat. May - West Fulton, OH  
 Third Sun. May - Lititz, PA  
 Fourth Sun. May - Shrewsbury, PA  
 Sat. before First Sun. Aug. -  
 Broadwater Chapel, MD

Sat. before Fourth Sun. Aug. -  
 Swallow Falls, MD  
 First Sun. Oct. - Walnut Grove, MD  
 Third Sat. Oct. - Dayton, VA  
 Fourth Sat. Oct. - Englewood, OH  
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## GOSSIP, BOTH VERBAL AND BY MAIL

A. Elders, other officials and all others are admonished that being busybodies in other men's matters is contrary to Scripture. It should not be indulged in, as it causes complaint and interference with the spiritual life and work of those concerned. This applies especially where there may be trouble in the church, both to local members and those elsewhere, talking and writing about those matters.

B. When advice is sought of an official in any church matter he (the official) should be exceedingly careful in giving advice, so as not to interfere in any way with proper care of difficulties, by officials whose business they are. Elders and all others should, in seeking advice, begin at home when at all possible and be careful to proceed regularly and in brotherly love.

C. In correspondence, care should be exercised not to make statements that may be construed as derogatory to any member. If such things are done, full responsibility must be understood as being assumed by the writer.

D. Caucusing, that is the talking over and planning by groups, what to do or how to move in any particular matter is unprofitable, causative of distress and trouble and should not be indulged in by officials or anyone else.

E. Talking or circulating of what was done in council, either to members, who were not present, or to outsiders, is irregular and un-Christian and should not be indulged in.

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## **LOCATION OF CHURCH HOUSES**

### **BETHEL, PENNSYLVANIA**

Located on Route 419, five miles east of Bethel, which is one mile south of Interstate 78, Exit 6. The church and school are located together.

### **BROADWATER CHAPEL, MD**

From Cumberland, Maryland, travel west on National Freeway #48, 20 miles to Lower New Germany Road Exit. Turn left or south under the freeway three-tenths mile, turn right on Lower New Germany Road. Go 3.8 miles, turn left on Westport Road. Go 3.8 miles, turn right on Savage River Road. Go 3.9 miles to church on left.

From Morgantown, WV area travel east on National Freeway #48 to Lower New Germany Road Exit. Turn right, go three-tenths mile, turn right on Lower New Germany Road and follow above directions.

Traveling east or west on U.S. Route #50 take U.S. Rt. #220 north. Take Maryland Route #135 at McCoole (just north of Keyser, WV) seven miles to Bloomington, MD. Turn right on Savage River Road, go 12.5 miles to church on right.

### **DALLAS CENTER, IOWA**

Dallas Center is located on Rt. 44, twenty four miles northwest of Des Moines. Turn north off Rt. 44 onto Quinlan Avenue at west edge of Dallas Center. The church is located at 2323 Quinlan Avenue, 3/4 mile north on the west side of the road.

### **DAYTON, VIRGINIA**

Turn west from Interstate 81 at Harrisonburg Exit #245. Go to fourth stop light, Rt. 42, turn left to Dayton, 3.5 miles right on Rt. 257, two blocks.

### **ENGLEWOOD, OHIO**

Twelve miles north of Dayton, Rt. 40 and Rt. 48 cross at the center of Englewood. Church house is located on the right of Rt. 48, one block north of this junction.

### **GOSHEN, INDIANA**

Located on Green Road, one block north of County #130. Take U.S. 33 or Indiana #15 to Goshen. Turn west at police booth. Four blocks beyond bridge, turn right on North Indiana Ave., go one block. Turn left on West Clinton St. Go one mile to Green Rd., turn right and go one block. The church is located on the east side of the road.

### **GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI**

The Grandview Church is located south of Grandview. Take the west access road of 71 Highway 1.5 miles south to 139th St. Turn west and go to second street, turn south one block.

### **HART, MICHIGAN**

From Muskegon go north on Rt. 31 to Hart Exit. Go left from freeway about 1.5 miles to tee in road. Turn right and go approximately one half mile to church on left side of road.

**LITITZ, PENNSYLVANIA**

Coming from the south on Route 501, turn right on Newport Road, which is about a mile north of Lititz. Coming from the north turn left on Newport Road. Go to second crossroads, turn right. The white church is on the right.

**MECHANICSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA**

Located between Routes 15 and 11. The town is bisected by Rt. 114 into east and west and by Rt. 641 into north and south. The church is located on West Keller St., (corner of Keller and Washington St.), four blocks west of Market St. or Rt. 114. Leaving the Pennsylvania Turnpike at the Carlisle interchange, Rt. 11 will lead east to Rt. 114. Leaving the Turnpike at Gettysburg Interchange, Rt. 15 will lead west to Rt. 114.

Brightbill's House - located on U.S. Route 322, 2.5 miles east of Campbeltown, Pennsylvania in Lebanon County. The meeting house is a grey limestone building.

**McCLAVE, COLORADO**

The Cloverleaf church is located one mile north of U.S. Highway #50, four miles west of McClave junction, or two miles east of Hasty, Colorado on U.S. #50, then one mile north.

**MOUNTAINDALE, MARYLAND**

Seven miles north of Frederick, in the little town of Mountaindale, Maryland, from the east go through the town to the west on the road from Lewistown to Yellow Springs, two miles from Lewistown and three miles from Yellow Springs. If traveling U.S. 15, this road crosses 15, a half mile west of Lewistown and six miles south of Thurmont.

**PINE RIDGE, MISSISSIPPI**

Located near Collins, Mississippi. From Collins, go east on US 84 three quarters of a mile to Salem School Road. Turn left and go five and one fourth miles to intersection, where there is a directional sign to the Church. Turn left and proceed one mile to the next directional sign. Turn right and go one half mile to the church house.

**PLEASANT HOME, CALIFORNIA**

The Pleasant Home Church is located at 3960 Sharon Ave., Modesto, California. The church's telephone number is 209-524-8634.

Directions: from the south on Highway 99 take the Briggsmore Exit to the right and stay on Briggsmore Ave. to Claus Road (approximately six miles). Turn left on Claus, one fourth mile to Sharon Avenue, left on Sharon. The church is on the left.

Coming from the north on Highway 99 take the Briggsmore Exit, turn left and stay on Briggsmore and follow above directions.

**PLEASANT RIDGE, OHIO**

Located in Williams County, four miles west of West Unity, forty rods north of Rt. 20 Alternate. Two miles east of junction of Ohio Rt. 15 and U.S. Route 20 Alternate.

**PLEVNA, INDIANA**

Route 18 passes east and west through Converse. In Converse, turn south at stoplight and go three miles. Turn right on blacktop road and go five miles to Plevna. Or go west of Converse on Rt. 18 for five miles, turn left and go three miles south. The church is on west side of street near the square of Plevna.

**QUINTER, KANSAS**

Located at the corner of Eighth Street and Main Street.

**RIDGE, WEST VIRGINIA**

Coming from the west to Ridgeville on U.S. 50, turn right on Knobley Road. Follow this road to the Antioch Church of God, where you will turn left unto an unpaved road. Follow this road to where the road forks, keep the right hand road to the Ridge Church House.

Coming from the east on U.S. 50, turn left on Ridgeville and follow the same directions.

Coming through Cumberland, Maryland follow Route 220 south through Keyser, West Virginia to U.S. 50. Turn east on U.S. 50 and go to Ridgeville and follow the above directions.

**SHREWSBURY, PENNSYLVANIA**

Fourteen miles south of York on Rt. 111, at the north end of the town of Shrewsbury.

**SWALLOW FALLS, MARYLAND**

Church address is: 2191 Swallow Falls Rd., Oakland, MD 21550. Take Maryland Rt. 219 North of Oakland 5.5 miles or South of I 68, 18 miles to Mayhew Inn Rd. West on Mayhew Inn Rd. to the stop sign (4.2 miles). Bear left onto the Oakland-Sang Run Rd. for



.3 mile to the Swallow Falls Rd. Turn right onto the Swallow Falls Rd. for .3 miles. The church will be on your left.

#### WALNUT GROVE, MARYLAND

About midway between Frederick, MD and Hanover, PA. One fourth mile east on Rt. 194, at an intersection three miles north of Taneytown, MD.

#### WAYNESBORO, PENNSYLVANIA

Church is located in west side of town, on the corner of Ridge and Third Streets. Turn south of Route 16 on Fairview Ave., go two blocks and turn left on Third Street, church house is one block.

#### WEST FULTON, OHIO

Near Wauseon, OH, located on U.S. Rt. 20 Alternate, 3.5 miles west of the junction of Ohio Rt. 108 and U.S. 20 Alternate.

#### WINTERHAVEN, CALIFORNIA

Located in Cherry Valley. Go north of Beaumont on Beaumont Ave., turn right on Brookside (marked with Highland Springs sign) go to Jonathan, turn left, go one block to Lincoln, turn right and go to church which is on left side of road.

## MISSIONS

#### CLEARVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA -

Ward's Church is located in South-Central Pennsylvania about halfway between Everett on Rt. 30 and Piney Grove on Rt. 40, about six miles south of Clearville. From Everett take Rt. 26 to Clearville. At Clearville go straight south, leaving Rt. 26, which turns right. Go 1.5 miles, turn right at the fork. Ward's Church is five miles on left side of road. Services are held second, fourth and fifth Sundays, at 10:00 A.M.

#### TORREON NAVAJO MISSION, NEW

MEXICO - Located 23 miles southwest of Cuba, New Mexico. In Cuba, turn on State Highway 197. Follow Rt. 197 for 19 miles to a paved road leading to the left. A Mission sign marks this junction. Present personnel includes: David and Mildred Skiles; Paul and Sarah Skiles; Loren Carpenter; Jeff Birt; Philip and Kelly Lapp; Angela Hill and Crystal Strite. Visitors would be wise to notify the Mission in advance. Address: HCR 79, Box 8, Cuba, NM 87013; telephone: 505-731-2292. Please contact for further information.

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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXXIII

FEBRUARY 15, 1995

NO. 4

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## ENDURING THE STORMS, ENJOYING THE RAINBOWS

The thunders roar,  
The rain does pour,  
Lightning streaks across the sky.  
The wind does blow;  
As limbs bow low,  
It seems destruction is nigh.

God's love is sure;  
He'll help endure  
Life's storms that come our way.  
Trust in the Lord,  
Cling to His Word,  
And "This, too, shall pass away."

For this we know  
That after the snow  
There always comes the spring.  
The rains will slow,  
The sun will glow,  
And a rainbow God may bring.



What pleasure is this  
To enjoy such bliss,  
As the rainbow leaves with the rain.  
Happiness is here,  
As clouds disappear,  
And the sun shines brightly again.  
-Irene Stout

## GOD'S RAINBOW

Although we have seen many rainbows, we still marvel when one appears in the sky. Whether a rain has been welcome or a nuisance, the rainbow at the end is a beautiful and inspiring sight. The beauty of the rainbow is not only in its physical beauty, but also in its Spiritual significance.

The rainbow reminds us of Noah's flood. Until that flood had receded, there had never been a rainbow. God gave the rainbow as a reminder to Noah of what he had been through.

Of all people living, only Noah and his family escaped the destruction of the greatest of all floods. The waters came not only from the heavens but from within the earth. There was no escape for those who would not receive the message of grace. Noah did find grace in the eyes of the Lord. He tried to share that message with the disobedient, who watched him building the ark according to the plans and specifications that God had given him. No other plan could have saved him and his family. The rainbow was a reminder to Noah of how he had been delivered.

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Today the rainbow is a reminder to us of the grace of God. Just as He gave detailed plans to Noah, so He has given us detailed plans that we too might be delivered from eternal destruction. His grace is shown in His Son, who brought a saving Gospel to mankind, through His shed blood. If Noah had chosen not to follow the detailed instructions he was given, to the letter, they would have been of no use to him or his family. Knowing what needs to be done will not accomplish anything. It is the doing that will prove beneficial. If Noah had done nothing, he would have perished like everyone else. If Noah had decided to use a different plan than God's, he would have perished. That first rainbow was a reminder to Noah that he could now enjoy the benefits of his obedience. The rainbow today should remind us that God has provided not only the grace necessary for our salvation, but also the plan that must be strictly followed if it is going to profit us.

The rainbow is made up of the colors of the prism. They are distinct, yet they blend together from one band of color into another. Seeing the rainbow we may be reminded of the various races who inhabit this earth. Because of the blessings that we have received, we sometimes get the idea that we are somehow different or better than any other people. We are reminded by the Apostle Paul that all peoples are of the same blood. One of the major breakthroughs of early Christianity was its spread among all classes and races of people. The Jews had been God's favored people during the Old Testament era. They had a superiority complex. This many times limited their outreach to others. If we develop similar feelings we too may limit our outreach. We know that color is only skin deep. The hearts and minds of all are of the same nature. All have inherited Adam's nature, for all ultimately have descended from Adam and Eve. Cultures and customs may vary along with complexions and languages, but the eternal need and desire of each one is the same. All are in need of the Saviour, for all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. Each individual as well as each race is distinct, yet needs to blend with others to make a united whole. Thus the rainbow is a picture of the Church.

The rainbow especially speaks of God's promises. He specifically gave the rainbow as a promise to Noah and all mankind that he would not destroy the earth by flood again. There have been some major floods since Noah's day. As destructive and far-reaching as some have been, never has one come close to doing the destruction of that original flood. He has kept that promise. His promise also included the information that in the end the world would not be destroyed by water but by fire. If the flood was able to do such massive damage, what greater destruction could be wrought by fire? That fire will far exceed



any fire we know here. That fire will melt the elements of this earth totally. The destructive power of God's judgment will be beyond anything ever known before. God has made many other promises through His Word. He will keep each one as faithfully as He has kept the promise He made to Noah. If wise, we will stand upon His promises for they are surer than any promises we have received here.

The rainbow is more than the natural phenomena that we see at the end of a storm. It has Spiritual lessons as it reminds of us of Noah's flood and what was necessary for he and his family to survive. It reminds us by its many colors that the Body of Christ is made up all types of people. It reminds us of the many promises that God has made to us.

What do you see when you see a rainbow?

MCC

## **GREETINGS FROM KENYA**

We arrived in Nairobi on Tuesday, January 10. We were met at the airport by Sis. Theresa O'Kello and five others with a very warm welcome. We are living with Theresa and her seven children. We have very comfortable living quarters. Even though some of the modern conveniences of home are missing, we are cared for very well. The food is good and usually consists of rice and a mixture of various vegetables. We are getting plenty to eat and we are fearful that our waistlines will expand a little while here.

We are treated as Royalty and with much respect. The churches here are eager to hear the preaching of God's Word. They love the Lord and are not ashamed to witness for Him. We have had many teaching and instructional meetings with the church leaders. A few have expressed a desire to preach and teach the Dunkard Brethren Doctrine. It looks very promising at this point for a mission, both here in Kenya and also in Uganda. Pray for these young men that they will continue to be strong in serving the Lord and spreading the gospel. They are men who are committed to the Word of God. Their earnest and fervent prayers make tears run down our cheeks as they give God glory and pray for the church in America and the work in Kenya.

We have visited several homes now and we are impressed how contented they seem to be living in such a small room. Some of them are smaller than many bathrooms in America. Our hearts go out to these people who are living on practically nothing. We pray that your hearts will be touched as ours are as the work will unfold here in Kenya. Both the financial and spiritual needs are very great. We thank all of you for your cards, letters, and prayers for us while here in Kenya. Keep praying for God's will to be done.



In Christian love,  
Brother Paul and Sister Mary Stump

## SATAN'S DEVICES

II Cor. 2:11, "Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices."

Who is Satan, the devil? John 8:44, "Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it."

One of his devices is to cause us to doubt the Word. He tried to cause doubt in the mind of Christ, saying, "If thou be the Son of God..."

As Paul was speaking in II Cor. 2 of forgiveness, we would like to point out some of the devices he uses to doubt that we are forgiven.

He tries with some to make us believe we have never done anything real bad so we do not need forgiveness. The Word answers in Rom. 3:9-12, "What then? are we better than they? No, in no wise: for we have before proved both Jews and Gentiles, that they are all under sin; As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one." Verse 23, "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." I John 1:8, "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us."

He may try to make us believe that the good we do outweighs the bad, so we need nothing more. The Word answers, Job 9:20, "If I justify myself, mine own mouth shall condemn me: if I say, I am perfect, it shall also prove me perverse." Prov. 20:9, "Who can say, I have made my heart clean, I am pure from my sin?" Ecc. 7:20, "For there is not a just man upon earth, that doeth good, and sinneth not."

He may try to make us believe we are too wicked to be forgiven. The Word answers, Isa. 1:18, "Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." I Tim. 1:12-15, "And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry; Who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious: but I obtained mercy, because I did it ignorantly in unbelief. And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus. This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief." I John 1:9-

2:2, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world."

There are of course conditions that we must meet, among which are: Repentance, Luke 24:47, "And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem." Acts 2:38, "Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." Acts 3:19, "Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord." Acts 8:22, "Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee." II Chron. 7:14, "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." Isa. 55:7, "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

Confession, Rom. 10:9-10, "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." I John 1:9, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

If we would be forgiven we must forgive others. Matt. 6:14-15, "For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses." Mark 11:25-26, "And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses, But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses."

Let's not let Satan get an advantage of us.

Pray for us and for one another.

Brother William Carpenter



## ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

### A Minister Speaks to Young Mothers

We all understand that the family is under tremendous pressure today. Because the home has been created by God, it is only logical that Satan will use every means possible to destroy it or at least frustrate it. He is totally aware that a strong and stable home creates strong and stable children and these children will become the soldiers of the cross of the future. This Godly heritage keeps the army of the Lord continuing through the generations. Normal, godly families are the greatest power on the face of this nation.

How many old folks have agonized over their wayward children? Some seem to go from problem to problem because they do not stay in tune with separated Christian parents. Rebellion and acceptance of the values of the age cause them to become shallow and self-centered.

What was the problem? What would have altered the course of that family and the path the children chose?

Most children are only home for about eighteen years and that is a relatively short time to teach personal responsibility and character. Diligent teaching and reproof in love and the use of the rod are very important and Biblical. Helping your children to choose right friends and working to keep them away from bad activities and influences is a must. Teaching a love for the Church and Her members is a must. Disallowing wrong music and inappropriate clothing and other harmful fads will help them to "keep straight." "Keeping straight" today usually has to do with not using drugs, alcohol, tobacco and watching porn films. What a lack of understanding of knowledge of God's Word is shown in that kind of thinking.

One of the real problems in our age is an economy that seems to require both parents to be employed out of the home. How many of our little flock have decided that the possession of more things and self fulfillment are more important than the lives of their beautiful children? Installment debt, materialism, wrong priorities have kept both parents in the labor market full time. Dedication to the task of parenting seems to be laid aside in the face of this environment.

I remember many times running into the house after school and yelling, "Mom"...and she would respond with a "Hi. How was your day?" I really did not care so much what she said at that moment. I just cared that she was there and I felt very secure because she was close by.

The Biblical admonition that Godly women be "keepers at home" in Titus 2:5 was put there for an important reason. She is there for the



children. She does not open herself to an environment where she changes her loyalty to her career or, God forbid, to another man at the office.

From the beginning, it was the man's duty to provide for the family. When a woman is put into the breadwinning role as the provider there are many times a change in her attitude toward her husband and his provision. She no longer feels a Biblical dependence on him and this leads to conflicts in leadership.

The Bible and nature itself gives the female a "nesting" drive. It is easily shown from the time she is able to hold on to a doll and to play house. She usually does not run out and dig roads in the dirt or play as if she is an airplane pilot. She, from early childhood, thinks like the female of the species.

Now, there is also the chance that a wife and mother might be at home and not take up the responsibility of that home. I understand that. If she lies around most of the day and possibly does not fully dress until the day is half over...if there are cobwebs all over and green stuff growing in the refrigerator...this is not accepting the challenge of being a full-time creative "keeper at home."

The "good life" is found in a Godly influence for the family. It is loyalty to the husband and guidance for the children. It is understanding that you are loved and feel important and fulfilled in the tasks of the household and in helping your mate to raise up a Godly heritage to the Lord. Be blessed...be home. You will be glad you did...and so will your husband and children.

Brother Len Wertz

## **THE PRAYER OF NEHEMIAH**

(Read Nehemiah chapter 1)

As this chapter opens we find a man named Hannani and certain men of Judah came to visit Nehemiah. Nehemiah asked them concerning the Jews that had escaped the captivity, which refers to the Babylonian exile, and about the city of Jerusalem.

"And they said unto me, The remnant that are left of the captivity there in the province are in great affliction and reproach: the wall of Jerusalem also is broken down, and the gates thereof are burned with fire." Nehemiah's response to this answer is given in verse 4. "And it came to pass, when I heard these words, that I sat down and wept, and mourned certain days, and fasted, and prayed before the God of heaven."

There is a remnant of the Church that is determined to "rebuild the walls and replace the gates." They have left behind their "Babylonian

captivity" and are determined to serve the true God in fullness and complete surrender. The reaction of the popular church movement has been to label these men and women of God legalists and declare them to be a liability to the cause of Christ. For the cause of Christ they suffer great spiritual affliction and reproach.

The reaction of these persecuted Christians is, or should be, that of Nehemiah. For those who are making havoc of the true faith we should weep, mourn, fast and pray.

Like Nehemiah we need to call upon the "Lord God of heaven, the great and terrible God, that keepeth covenant and mercy for them that love him and observe his commandments." The popular church movement will tell you that we are now under Grace and not under the law. Therefore, according to them, obedience is optional and has nothing to do with our salvation. What does the Word of God have to say on this subject? 1 John 2:3, "And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments." We are not under Old Testament law but the commandments and teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ include and go beyond the moral laws of the Old Testament.

Like Nehemiah we should pray for "the children of Israel, thy servants," (the earthly church), day and night. We need to "confess the sins of the children of Israel which we have sinned against thee." Can we lose our pride and, like Nehemiah, confess that "both I and my father's house have sinned."? In place of this all too often we deny our sinful nature and end up in as sad a condition as those who try to excuse sin.

Let us confess with a broken heart, "We have dealt very corruptly against thee, and have not kept the commandments, nor the statutes, nor the judgments, which thou commandedst thy servant..." The earthly church is not perfect. It does not matter what the name may be of the organization you belong to or if you consider your organization to be only an Independent work there are areas that are in need of improvement. Yet we believe with all of our heart that there is no salvation outside of the true Church which is made up of the blood bought redeemed Saints. We believe the commandments, statutes and judgments that God has given to the Church down through the ages must be taken very seriously.

Let us join Nehemiah in his petition to the Lord. "O LORD, I beseech thee, let now thine ear be attentive to the prayer of thy servant, and to the prayer of thy servants, who desire to fear thy name." Brothers and Sisters we are not alone in our desire to fear the name of the Lord and obey His commandments. Our prayers and desires of the heart are also the prayers and desires of other servants of the Lord.



"...and prosper, I pray thee, thy servant this day, and grant him mercy..." Oh may God prosper us greatly in spiritual riches. May He fill our heart with the love, joy and peace of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. May God grant us His mercy. Not one of us is so holy that we do not need the mercy of our Lord.

May we with Nehemiah declare, "For I was the king's cupbearer." It is said that the cupbearer tasted what the king drank to be sure it did not contain poison. Are we willing to lay our life on the line for the Lord Jesus Christ? Will the label "legalist" keep us from serving Him with all our heart?

Brother James M. Hite  
816 E. Birch St.  
Palmyra, PA 17078-2704

## **DIVIDING ASUNDER**

"For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart." Hebrews 4:12.

"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." II Timothy 2:15.

There is a great emphasis today on "rightly dividing" the word of God. This is very necessary and we would say nothing against it. The Holy Scriptures are God-breathed. They have stood the test of time. Perhaps the emphasis should include having God's Word divide us. Earlier in II Timothy 2, it says, "...For if we be dead with him, we shall also live with him." There is a death to sin and to the world which we must allow God to accomplish in us. The Holy Ghost, whom we have been promised, will teach us ALL THINGS. If we allow the Lord to work a perfect work in us the Word will become understandable.

Have you ever noticed that there is no effort made in the Holy Scriptures by the original writers to organize them in a systematic and analytical way? This is because we have the Holy Ghost to teach us, and the unsaved CANNOT understand the deep things of God. It is unknown to them. It is a mystery to them. More time is wasted in trying to work up a revival when revival must be prayed down from above.

Hebrews 4:12 states that the Word of God can divide the soul from the spirit. It can take away our evil desires so that we can serve the Living God willingly, from the heart. Do we love the Lord with all our heart? If we have seen our need for a Saviour, repented of our sins and thrown ourselves upon the mercy of Almighty God, realizing that He is able abundantly to pardon, He then will be true to His promise to



deliver us. Oftimes those who have grown up in the church feel that they are not sinners, but all of us have been born with the same nature: we are prone to sin. Regardless of whether we have yielded to the act of sin or not it is still in our heart, and we must be born again.

When we have become a new creature in Christ and all things have become new, we can study to show ourselves approved unto God. To study the scriptures while yet a sinner will only glean one conclusion: that we are worthy of death and must come to Jesus to be saved.

Brother Lynn H. Miller

RD 2 Box 561

Newmanstown, PA 17073

## **SIXTY YEARS AGO**

February 15, 1935

**RECOVERY**

**Grant Mahan**

To be in a depression of any kind is not pleasant, yet depressions are good for us if they lead us to see our mistakes, our wanderings from the right path, and to seek the old path. If we were as careful to avoid wrong as we are eager to get back after we have gone wrong, there would be fewer getting off the right road and being lost. We need to think of this as we go along. It is a good thing to "be sure we are right."

The great trouble with us is that we are so much more affected by our financial depressions than by our spiritual depressions. Our country gets farther and farther away from God, and we are not much concerned about it. We do not hold meetings and take counsel as to how best we can get back to Him. It seems to be a matter of comparative indifference to us. Jesus said that a man's soul is worth more than the whole world; that means that is the value of your soul and my soul. We cannot get, and we could not keep if we could get, the wealth of the world. We also often lose the small part of it that we accumulate by hard striving and great self-denial. And when we do lose part or all of what we have, we lament greatly and tell people how unfortunate we have been.

But all of us have seen people who were going away from God, who were taken up by the cares and pleasures of the world, and yet did not seem to realize that they had lost anything of any great value. They do not lament, they do not hasten to tell their friends and ask them how they can regain what they have lost. There is something wrong with those who fail to realize their loss, their undone condition.

There is a world lost in sin; our country is part of it. In a short time,

less than two years, billions have been spent in money to get our country back to normal conditions to recover from the depression. Yet our country is in much greater need of regeneration from above than of recovery of prosperity financially; and it would take a long, long time for the professing Christian people to spend as much to have Christ accepted as has been spent in so short a time to regain the money lost. It looks as if we consider recovery of financial prosperity of more importance than spiritual recovery. We have largely lost our sense of proportion, of relative values; and we need to regain it. We can never go right, we can never reach the highest goal, so long as we think of the things we do and strive to obtain, to the neglect of the better things, those that are eternal. Recovery is what the world needs, and financial recovery, for which so much has been done, is of comparatively little value. It is a matter of very little importance to me whether I have much or little of this world's wealth, but it is of infinite importance to me that I have treasure laid up above. What we have here in cash, thieves are likely to steal; what we have laid up above they have no way of reaching—and it is a wealth very different from the wealth of this world. Too many have lost their faith in God, in Jesus Christ our Lord, in His Book, in the church, in our brethren, and in ourselves. It looks as if we had lost pretty much all that is of real value while holding fast to the baubles that are of no real value, and of which we shall soon be deprived. The time of our departure is at hand, and when it comes we must leave behind the greater part of what we have considered our wealth. There is no place beyond for stocks and bonds, for gold and silver are not needed. It will be great gain for us if we learn to realize how little these things are needed in this life and not at all in the other and better life.

Yes, we need recovery, we want recovery; but we are not seeking, perhaps are not even wanting the recovery which is our greatest need, and which will make us unspeakably rich through the ages of eternity. The world is well lost by us if by losing it we can win and keep fast hold on God. No sacrifice is too great to make if it will help us to a higher plane of life here and give us a blessed home in eternity. We need to recover our faith in God, in our Lord Jesus, in His Word, in His church, in our brethren, in ourselves. We must strive to increase our faith in the eternal things, the things that really count now and in eternity.

We must regain some things we have lost and must lose some that are not gain to us. We have two lists given us as a guide what to seek and what to cast off: there are good fruits and evil fruits; and we know which are and ever will be best for us. We know which will drag us down and which will build us up. We need to cast off our indifference



and to engage earnestly in the work which was left us to do. It is better to be rich in good works than in earthly property; it is better to have the Lord for our portion than all that earth can give without Him.

## OBITUARY DANIEL ROEDEL

Bro. Daniel David Roedel was born the son of Herman and Anna (Neumann) Roedel in Hubbard, Oregon, December 16, 1907, one of eight children.

He grew up and attended school in Portland and Cedar Mills area, then worked on farms in the community. On January 18, 1939, he was married to Esther M. Schultz in Canby and they made their first home in Aloha. They were married with few possessions, for it was still the depression years. Their love, was all they wanted. "God was with us through the good times as well as a few bad ones," says Esther.

In 1945 he went to work for Spaulding Pulp and Paper Mill, now Smurffit, in Newberg, and worked for them twenty-four years. They moved to the Newberg area, living in the Sunnycrest area in Newberg. The past thirty years they have lived on their farm west and north of Newberg. Dan enjoyed collecting rocks and working with them; going to the ocean for fishing and clamming; and kidding with his friends and family. They also traveled to various states (most of the forty-eight) to visit friends and fellowship with the churches. He was always busy at something in his work and rock shop. The evenings he spent embroidering, which was one of his loves! He even helped quilt several quilts.

After retiring, Dan with Esther and Janet, spent almost two years as volunteers at Torreon Navajo Mission in New Mexico. Dan was the handyman, working and keeping up the laundryroom (which was for the benefit of the Navajos) and fixing things in the Christian School. He loved doing these things, willingly doing whatever was asked of him.

He joined the Dunkard Brethren Church in 1955.

On Friday, January 13, 1995, he died at his home in Newberg of causes related to age, when he was 87 years and 28 days of age. Surviving and left to honor his life are: his wife of (5 days short) 56 years, Esther May Roedel, of Newberg; three sons, David and his wife Sandra of Newberg, James and his wife Dianna and Ronald and his wife Vicki both of Aloha; one daughter, Janet Roedel of Newberg; twelve grandchildren; several great-grandchildren and those who have come to know and appreciate him where he has lived and worked. All of his brothers and sisters preceded him in death.

He was a good father and husband. Always taking Esther to dinner



on their wedding anniversary, never forgetting one. If they could not afford to eat out, something special, like going to the coast, or visiting a family member was done instead.

He loved his family and grandchildren. Although all the great-grandchildren never knew their real Grandpa, as he had his stroke and was in a wheelchair when they came along. The first major stroke was two days before the oldest great-grandchild was born. They came and put Michael in Dan's arms in his hospital bed, when Michael was only six hours old.

He was very content after his stroke, and mostly cooperative in whatever was done for him. He will be greatly missed!

His funeral service was on Friday, January 20, 1995, at 1:00 P.M. at Attrell's Newberg Chapel, a Golden Rule funeral home, with Elder Galen Litfin officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to Torreon Navajo Mission or Ned's Place of Newberg, Oregon.

We want to thank all the Brothers and Sisters for all the prayers, beautiful cards and letters sent us at the time of the loss of our loved one.

Also for the prayers and care throughout the eight years of his disablement. His tired body is now at rest. Praise God. Our loss is his gain through our Lord's redemption.

Sister Esther Roedel, and family

## **NEWS ITEMS**

### **1995 GENERAL CONFERENCE June 10-14, 1995**

The Lord willing, the Fourth District of the Brotherhood intends to hold General Conference, June 10-14, 1995 in Modesto, California.

The Lodging Committee requests that people planning to attend the Conference and need lodging contact Bro. Dave Reece or Bro. Henry Walker as soon as possible.

If you can provide your own transportation for the duration of your time at the conference, it will help reduce our costs and organizational needs. If you will need transportation it is imperative to let the Lodging Committee know ahead of time.

In behalf of the Lodging Committee:

Bro. Dave Reece  
1341 Bennett Rd.  
Modesto, CA 95358  
209-529-2741

Bro. Henry Walker  
12413 Delaware Rd.  
Hickman, CA 95323  
209-874-2832

## **PLEASANT HOME, CALIFORNIA**

Hebrews 11:25 has a challenge for each of us in this new year. "And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works." How can I encourage your spreading of God's love to those you contact in day-to-day activities? How can you stimulate desire in my life to promote the cause of the Kingdom?

The past year has brought sorrows and joys into Pleasant Home's congregational life. One happy experience is the addition of new members to our number. In the latter part of the year, we received Allison Dutter, Peggy Zemens, Jim and Elida Byler and their children, Janet, Jevon and Ken into membership. What is our part in "provoking them unto love and good works"?

Visitors are welcome at any of our services. Bro. Galen Shelly and his wife Jennifer brought a special joy to our midst during a week of Revival.

We invite you to District Meeting and Spring Lovefeast, Easter weekend. We look forward to hosting General Conference in Modesto as we open our homes to you.

May God bless your personal and congregational life in 1995. We know Christ's coming is SOON and trust each of us can join that great and wonderful coming together of the Bride!

Sister Edith Moss, Cor.

## **PLEASANT RIDGE, OHIO**

The Lord willing, the Pleasant Ridge Congregation will have Revival Meetings, March 17 through 26, with Bro. Mark Andrews as our evangelist. We plan to close with a Lovefeast on Saturday, March 25, with services beginning at 11:00 A.M. All who can come are welcome to worship with us.

Sister Marjorie Flory, Cor.

## **LITITZ, PENNSYLVANIA**

Brother Mark Cordrey from Modesto, California has consented to be with us from March 24 through April 2.

An invitation is extended to all to come, worship and pray for these Revival Meetings.

Sister Dorcas Myers, Cor.

## **DALLAS CENTER, IOWA**

The Lord willing, the Dallas Center Congregation will plan to hold their Spring Lovefeast Services on Saturday and Sunday, April 1 and 2, 1995. Services will begin at 10:45 Saturday morning with our Lovefeast in the evening. We welcome all who can come to enjoy this time of fellowship with us. We covet your prayers. God bless you.

Sister Arlene Flora, Cor.

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## **ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR MARCH 1995**

**March 5 - Frogs and Lice - Exodus 8:1-18.**

1. Why did not Pharaoh want immediate relief from the frogs?
2. What made the magicians declare "This is the finger of God?"

**March 12 - Plague of Flies - Exodus 8:19-32.**

1. Why was there not swarms of flies in Goshen?
2. What was the "Abomination of the Egyptians" that Israel was going to sacrifice to the Lord?

**March 19 - A Plague on Cattle and Boils on Man - Exodus 9:1-12.**

1. Could not the children of Israel serve God in Egypt?
2. Where did the power of the magicians come from?

**March 26 - Hail and Fire - Exodus 9:13-35.**

1. For what purpose did God raise up Pharaoh?
2. Was Pharaoh's repentance genuine?

## **YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR MARCH 1995**

**March 5 - Our Integrity - Job 27:1-6, Ps. 41, Ps. 11:1-5, I John 3:18-24**

1. Can we keep our integrity with our own strength?
2. How does the Lord try the righteous?

**March 12 - Conversion - Ps. 19:2-14, Ps. 51:10-13, Matt. 18:1-11, Acts 3:19, James 5:19-20.**

1. How do we humble ourselves as a little child?
2. Can you be converted without repentance?

**March 19 - Our Labor - Matt. 20:1-16.**

1. Why were not those who worked longer paid more?
2. Why had not those hired at the eleventh hour been working?

**March 26 - The Greatest Commandment - Deut. 10:12, Matt. 22:35-40, Luke 10:25-29.**

1. Why is this called the Great Commandment?
2. What is required in both commandments?



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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## A LAST PRAYER

Father, I scarcely dare to pray,  
So clear I see, now it is done,  
That I have wasted half my day  
And left my work but just begun.

So clear I see that things I thought  
Were right, or harmless, were a sin;  
So clear I see that I have sought  
Unconscious, selfish sins to win;

So clear I see that I have hurt  
The souls I might have helped to save;  
That I have slothful been, inert,  
Deaf to the calls Thy leaders gave.

In outskirts of thy kingdom vast,  
Father, the humblest spot give me;  
Set me the lowliest task thou hast;  
Let me, repentant, work for thee.

-Helen Hunt Jackson

## RESISTING GOD

There are many things that we must resist during our lives. We have to resist many temptations, from lust to greed to gluttony. We must resist the efforts of others to lead us astray. We must resist our own desires in the moments of weakness. While we resist all these, we must not resist God.

Most people do not resist God directly. Many will appear to obey. While they would not resist God to His face, they will resist Him when they do not resist Him in a direct way. They resist Him by rejecting His Word proclaimed or read. They think by resisting His messengers or His Word that they are not directly resisting Him.

Perhaps one of the prime examples in the Bible of resisting God is Pharaoh's attitude toward God, when Moses and Aaron approached him about freeing the children of Israel. He did not want to comply with their request. He stated that he did not know that there was such a God as they represented to him. He certainly was not going to let their people go. Furthermore for their pains he increased the burdens of their bondage. As they continued to go to him and seek the release of the people, he continued to defy them and resist God. He had a hard heart to begin with, which became harder as he continued to resist. God allowed this hardness to deepen, so the deliverance of the Israelites would be more dramatic and more destructive of the Egyptians. It took some very drastic plagues to convince Pharaoh that he was dealing with a God who was far superior to the gods he worshipped. He continued to resist God even after he promised to let them go. The Passover finally convinced him that he must let them

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**THE BIBLE MONITOR****MARCH 1, 1995**

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go, although he later regretted his decision. He pursued them and met his death in the midst of the Red Sea.

Pharaoh is not the last person to try to resist God. Others have tried and have failed as miserably as he did. Because his resistance was so long lasting and so mean spirited, the means of delivery were so spectacular. God did not leave any doubt that He was in charge. When men swell with pride, they get the impression that they are superior to God. They know better than He does. When that happens to a man, he is setting himself up for a big fall. There is a folk saying that fits this situation. "The bigger they are the harder they fall."

This is expected behavior for the wicked, evil and ungodly. Unfortunately there are many who are members of the Church and profess to be Christians who are resisting God. In the Bible records are given of men who were heroes of the faith. They were the great men of God but beside their good deeds there are evil deeds and attitudes that they displayed. The Bible portrays great men, but it never glosses over their faults. This reminds us that no matter how good men may be, they still have flaws. These flaws illustrate great men's need to depend upon God, just like the rest of us.

With this history spread before us, it should be evident that we need to guard against resisting God. Yet it is so easy to resist Him. He allows us to have our way even if it is wrong. Sin is not just Adam's failure in the Garden of Eden but our failure in our daily activities. We have sin to answer for in our individual lives. We can not blame our standing with God on our foreparent's lack of perception when the enemy enticed them. We have each sinned and come short of His perfect will for us. When we have failed to heed His will, we are resisting Him. As alarming as that should be to us, even more upsetting to us should be those times when we purposely defy Him.

There are many ways Christians can resist God. It may be through actions, attitudes or words. When we are unwilling to accept the teaching of the Bible concerning the origin of man and this earth as the result of God's spoken word, we are resisting God. When we do not admit our faults and sins, we are resisting God. When we are unwilling to depend upon Jesus Christ as our Savior, we are resisting God. When we make Jesus anyone less than the Son of God, we are resisting God. When we make light of Hell and despise Heaven, we are resisting God. When we refuse to accept the Bible as His revealed Word, we are resisting God. When the plan of salvation is not accepted, we are resisting God.



It is ever so easy to believe our own interpretations, or to be led astray by our own intentions. We would never resist God, yet somehow we are at odds with Him and the Church.

Would you resist God?

MCC

## THE UNPARDONABLE SIN

Though the term, "unpardonable sin," is not used in the Scriptures, it seems evident from the Scriptures that there is a sin that cannot be forgiven. Since I, in the past, have wondered if I might have already committed the unpardonable sin, and have talked to others who also wondered, I have looked into the Scriptures to understand, if possible, what it means.

The Scriptures we will look at first are Matt. 12:31-32, "Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men. And whosoever speaketh a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, neither in the world to come." Mark 3:28-29, "Verily I say unto you, All sins shall be forgiven unto the sons of men, and blasphemies wherewith soever they shall blaspheme: But he that shall blaspheme against the Holy Ghost hath never forgiveness, but is in danger of eternal damnation." Luke 12:10, "And whosoever shall speak a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but unto him that blasphemeth against the Holy Ghost it shall not be forgiven."

We note that in all three gospels He says AGAINST the Holy Ghost. Matthew and Mark both have this statement in connection with the accusation that Jesus cast out devils by the prince of the devils. Attributing the work of the Holy Ghost unto Satan. Read Matt. 12:22-33 and Mark 3:22-30.

It seems evident that suicide cannot be forgiven, but only because one has put himself in a position where he cannot repent.

I John 5:16-17, "If any man see his brother sin a sin which is not unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give him life for them that sin not unto death. There is a sin unto death: I do not say that he shall pray for it. All unrighteousness is sin: and there is a sin not unto death."

Please read Heb. 6:1-11 and Heb. 10:26-39. Quoting Heb. 6:4-6, "For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy

Ghost, And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame." Quoting Heb. 10:26, "For if we sin willfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins."

My opinion is one cannot commit that sin and not know it. Heb. 6:8, "But that which beareth thorns and briers is rejected, and is nigh unto cursing; whose end is to be burned." Heb. 10:27, "But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries."

Some things we need to be wary of: lying to the Holy Spirit, Acts 5:1-10; resisting the Holy Ghost, Acts 7:51; grieving the Holy Ghost, Eph. 4:30, quenching the Holy Ghost, I Thess. 5:19.

Before leaving the subject we have a few words of comfort. Heb. 6:9-11, "But, beloved, we are persuaded better things of you, and things that accompany salvation, though we thus speak. For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister. And we desire that every one of you do shew the same diligence to the full assurance of hope unto the end." Heb. 10:35, "Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward." And verse 39, "But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul."

We welcome comments and questions. Pray for us and for one another.

Brother William Carpenter

## **ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE**

### **"Why did God create Satan?"**

One of the most interesting things about parenting is the questions that children ask that seem rather hard to answer. Questions like, "Dad, why do chickens have feathers?" "Why don't they have ears like people?" These are all fun questions but sometimes questions are asked like, "Why did God create Satan?"

Of course there are some people who seem persuaded that Satan does not even exist. He does! He is the fountainhead of all unbelief and of every kind of spiritual and moral evil in the world. He is the adversary, the slanderer, Lucifer, the serpent. To us, the existence of Satan as a real person is proven by the fact that the Lord Jesus Christ recognized him as such.



The Apostle Paul called him the "god of this world." He was also called the "prince of the power of the air." The scriptures teach that, before man and the world were created, God had created an "innumerable company of angels." This was a heavenly host of spiritual beings of great strength and intelligence. The highest of these created beings were the cherubim and they are still the attendants at the very throne of God.

God did not create Satan as an evil being. Like the other angels, he was created as a free spirit, not an unthinking machine. He, and all other angels, was fully able to reject God's will if he chose to do so.

The root of all sin, in both man and in angels, is the sin of unbelief and pride. This refusal to submit to God's will, as revealed by His own Word, and the accompanying assertion of self-sufficiency crowns the creature and his own will in the place of God. This was the original sin of Satan, rejecting God's Word and trying to become God himself. He proclaimed, "I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God...I will be like the most High."

When God created Satan and set him at the head of the angelic hierarchy, He undoubtedly told him of His plans for the universe, including the future creation of man in His own image. In view of Satan's later malevolent preoccupation with man's destruction, it would appear that this intention provoked a spirit of resentment in his mind. He developed an intense personal pride in his own elevated position, his beauty and wisdom. He was displeased that God would give man the wonderful ability to reproduce and multiply, a privilege not given to the angels.

This spirit of pride and resentment began to generate a spirit of unbelief in God's truth and righteousness. He might have questioned that he was even created by the sovereign God, or that He could create man, who was any better than he was. It might have seemed reasonable to him that he just arose by natural processes out of the elemental energies of the cosmos. (Sound familiar?) He resented the control of God and he organized many other angels into a "new order" in the heavens. He would be the new god.

The resulting fall of man enabled sin to enter into the world and Satan to take dominion thereof. God has allowed Satan to continue for a season in this rebellion and the earth has become his base of operation. Even now there are millions of people who consciously worship Satan and many more millions who are increasingly open to their hatred of God. The whole system will end up with the world worshipping the dragon (Rev. 13:3). This short success will cause him to be thrown into the lake of fire and he will be tormented day and night for ever and ever.



God, of course, REALLY WAS THE CREATOR and Satan's idea was only a lie. Even though he is the author of rebellion today, this can be conquered by God as He reveals His grace and love as well as His power and holiness to His people. He is not only the Creator but He is our Redeemer and Saviour...through His Son, Jesus Christ.

Salvation and eternal life are offered to all men. It is His will that He be accepted by all people. Those who reject Him will share in the same destiny as their preferred master, Satan. These people will hear the awful words, "Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels."

Brother Len Wertz

## **FAITH**

### Part 1

#### Introduction

A common definition of faith is "Taking God at His word." Webster defines faith as: "Unquestioning belief in God and Christ." The Bible in Heb. 11:1 defines faith thus, "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

Real, genuine FAITH will change a person's life and heart from the lures of this world to live for Christ. When FAITH is genuine, its influence is very powerful.

When we manifest a true FAITH in Christ, a noticeable change will be very evident. We will have a new kind of relationship with whomever we meet, even our enemies. Our life, our dealings, our language and our worship will reflect our FAITH.

Hebrews 11:6a. We have a warning, that without FAITH it is impossible to please God.

Romans 10:7 informs us as follows, "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

Luke 18:8b, "Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?"

II Thess. 2:3b, tells us that there shall be a falling away (from the faith) prior to Christ's second coming.

Why? I John 4:1, "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world."

We are living in that day!

Modern preachers today are not preaching full Biblical Doctrine. They definitely are not contending for the FAITH once delivered unto the saints. The prayer veil, feetwashing, trine immersion baptism, nonconformity, and so forth are subjects that the modern minister

does not preach on. Might they rightly be classed as false teachers?

The Apostle Paul told Timothy in II Tim. 4:2a, "Preach the word."

Regarding my subject FAITH, I propose to follow, quoting many scriptures on the subject without comment.

Mark 11:22b, "Have faith in God."

II Cor. 5:7, "(For we walk by faith, not by sight:)"

Gal. 5:22 tells us that faith is one of the fruits of the Spirit.

James 2:17 tells us faith without works is dead.

James 5:15a, "And the prayer of faith shall save the sick."

Col. 1:23a says we are to continue in the faith, grounded and settled.

Rev. 2:10, "...be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life." (Jesus speaking.)

To be continued

Brother Paul R. Myers

5005 Higbee Ave. NW

Canton, OH 44718

## **SIXTY YEARS AGO**

March 1, 1935

### **ARMISTICE DAY**

Elwyn Speaker

Yes it's past, I know, but a few thoughts brought to mind on that day might be well to consider. The minister of a well known church here, gave a discourse on that Lord's Day in regard to the evils of war and the beauty of peace. Many of his thoughts were good and truthful. As a comparison between private and national acts he gave this: A man may shoot down his neighbor and by so doing disobey the laws of God and man, for which he is justly punished, a life for a life; but in warfare, if a man shoots down his neighbor, he does no sin because he does so under the authority and command of the government.

This likely brought comfort to the hearts of many who had sons or brothers in the last war, to think that they did not sin when helping to slay the sons of other mothers. One of the commands God wrote on the tables of stone was this, "Thou shalt not kill." He added no exceptions; why should we? However it seemed that God sometimes helped the Israelites in warfare against their enemies, and no doubt He can overrule a battle for good, to some, as He wills.

Lest we might become confused in this matter let's take a retrospective view of world conditions: In the beginning God made the world very beautiful and God saw everything and "behold it was very

good," everything was peace and harmony; the lamb lay down with the lion.

But conditions now—slaying and murdering and wrangling—why such an awful change? O sin, sin is here! Why is sin here? Because the father of sin and all lies, Satan, is here. How come he is here? Because in heaven he became so awful, even having war, that God cast him out. Why he was hurled down to this planet instead of some other one I don't know, but one thing you and I do know—he is here.

Now then, bearing all this in mind, we see the great care needed lest we be turned aside by the deceitfulness of sin. The Israelites were a stiff necked and rebellious people and Jesus did not approve of everything they did and advocated. In the beginning of His ministry (Matt. 5) He said, "Ye have heard that it hath been said, thou shalt love thy neighbors and hate thine enemy, but I say unto you, love your enemies." Why? So that we can triumph and rule over them? No. "That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven." Great reward. As usual, our Father's reward is above all proportion to the obedience requested.

We remember how it is in war time; only such articles as will promote and foster hatred against the supposed enemy are allowed to be published. Anger and hatred, coming from Satan, is a necessary prerequisite to war. There could be no war if only love prevailed. The man of the world advances this thought: "That love does not prevail and we have to meet conditions as they are, if we don't want to be the under dog we have got to fight and overcome." Those who look at it in this way must remember that as an individual, or a nation, we must meet this God-given truth, "With what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again."

No doubt it is quite interesting and profitable to construct the great warships, with the automatically controlled cannons and everything complete. And likely the firing squad takes pleasure in accurately aiming these great weapons and pressing the button at the proper moment. But suppose these human life destroyers were suddenly lifted up by some unseen power and turned end for end. It makes all the difference in the world which end of a gun you are facing. If we are not willing to get back what we give we are in the devil's ranks.

"Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them." If we are holding a weapon for use against our neighbor, or our neighbor nation, which we would not be willing to have reversed on us, we have not the spirit of Christ. God's weapons are reversible. Here is another one. "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." The nation on whom this weapon is used can



and will reverse it, using the same kind of ammunition. And instead of causing death and destruction, it brings forth love and peace and happiness. "On earth peace, good will toward men."

When the devil has any work on hand he wants immediate action. He gives no time for thought and prayer. Then when it is all over we can see how senseless and unreasonable it was. So with the World War. Now that it is all over (except paying for) and the graves of the eight million dead sons (from both sides) nicely covered, people are asking why it was necessary and why it could not have been settled some other way? The answer is, because it was Satan's work, and his ultimate aim always is, destruction of soul and body.

As a church we must be sure we are established, "rooted and grounded," in this matter as in other things, for we know not how soon we may be brought face to face with this issue. As a help we should take a look far back (as already given) and a look far ahead. Heaven is ahead. We can not pass through the pearly gates with a carnal weapon in our hands. "Put up...thy sword...for all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword." What if death should come to us while trying to slay our brother? It would mean for us that we go condemned to the judgment bar of God.

There is no chance after death to prepare to meet God, no purgatory. Though heaven is awaiting us, it must begin with us here, in our hearts. We cannot harmonize with the ungodly ways, the warfare, of this world. (Jno. 18:36) Jesus says, "My kingdom is not of this world." Perfect peace will never be attained while Satan is the "prince of this world," but that is no reason why we, as individual Christians and as the church which He has purchased, should not follow implicitly the teachings of the Man of Galilee, the Son of God.

## **FOR SENIOR CHRISTIANS ON MATURITY**

I have been thinking about one of the most important and productive segments of our church family...the senior citizen Christians. I have decided to write a series of articles especially keyed to your stage in life. I hope all readers will find the information valuable. So, if you are not in the older group...but certainly hope to be someday, read on.

Maturity in physical life should also bring about maturity in our Christian life. This does not always happen but it may be because we have not taught the importance of becoming fully what God wants us to be.

The process of spiritual maturity must be prefaced with the fact that

NO person ever becomes absolutely and totally mature in Christ and working toward this state of spirituality is an unending process. You should, however, be continually maturing and not thinking of yourself as having "arrived." An older Christian who thinks he or she has arrived is guilty of pride and has not progressed as much as it would appear.

On the other hand, you need to properly evaluate yourself instead of assuming an artificial humility when you speak of growth in Christ. You are to see yourself both honestly and humbly. Seeing yourself in this manner will allow you to truly be mature without being proud. It also allows you to be behind some other Christians in some particular areas without being depressed.

Even though maturing in Christ is a process that will continue as long as you are mentally alert, you will not see it in an unbroken progression. The progress pattern of maturing is a jagged line. You have minor ups and downs and plateaus with an overall growth in your God given qualities, attitudes, disposition and behavior.

Maturity will be reflected by an increase in love, comprehending spiritual truths, experiencing life at its fullest and practicing its "breadth, length, depth, and height."

Maturation is ultimately becoming a "perfect (complete) man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ."

Being fully mature in your Christian life is not separable from acting as a fully developed Christian. Qualities are reflected in behavior. This spiritual maturity is not the product of works any more than salvation is the result of works alone. Both salvation and maturity result in service prompted by the Spirit's control and influence. It is common to think of the period of retirement from one's vocation as retirement from vital activity in the church and nothing could be farther from the truth. It is during this period that a person can apply what has been learned in a lifetime of dealing with people in mercy, kindness, humbleness, meekness, long-suffering, forbearance, forgiveness and charity. You are now come to full blossom like a beautiful rose...and should be full of righteousness and true holiness.

The mature...or elderly...physical garment is attractive to God and to fellow believers. Others will become protective of you and esteem you highly for both your chronological and spiritual maturity. When I was in Africa, there was a greeting for the elderly that denoted that they were special...worthy of greater honor. They were held in high esteem.

Continue with an eagerness to produce fruit, to offer leadership and work for the perfecting of the younger members of the Body of Christ.



Just as you have changed physically in your maturity, I pray that you are changed significantly in your spiritual transformation. I pray that you have allowed your Christian life to become balanced and reflect victory. I pray that as you have separated yourself from sin, you have a light shining from possibly dimmed eyes that will be the crowning glory of your life.

Yes, you may suffer some pain, might even yet make mistakes and sin, but you can enter and live in this phase of life as a victorious and influential person, sharing your life. You are a wonderful example of what God will do for us when we live with His teachings at the center of our being.

Brother Len Wertz

## **OUR JUDGE, OUR LAWGIVER, AND OUR KING**

Isaiah 33:22, "For the LORD is our judge, the LORD is our lawgiver, the LORD is our king; he will save us."

There is an often repeated story concerning an individual who was saved from a tragedy by another individual. As the story goes the individual who was saved from the tragedy later committed a serious crime. The same man who saved his life now sat in the place of his judge. At the sentencing the judge is supposed to have said the words, "Then I was your savior, now I am your judge." It is then stated that the Lord Jesus Christ is now our Savior but will one day be our Judge. There is some truth to this illustration and we do not condemn those ministers or other speakers and writers who use it. However, we are convinced that there is much confusion concerning the place of the Lord Jesus Christ as our Judge, Lawgiver and King.

In Acts 10:42-43 we read the following. "And he commanded us to preach unto the people, and to testify that it is he which was ordained of God to be the Judge of quick and dead. To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins." This portion of Scripture seems to clearly teach that the Lord Jesus Christ is to be the final Judge at the resurrection. II Timothy 4:8 confirms this truth. "Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing."

At first glance we seem to have proven the truth that Jesus Christ is now Savior and will be the Judge at the end of the age. We would affirm this truth with no difficulty. However, there is no second chance after death or the rapture of the Church. Therefore there is the sense



in which Jesus Christ is our Judge this very day, be it the day of His return or not.

There is a saying very popular in our day, "We are not under law, we are under grace." Again we would confirm that there is some truth in this statement. We do not believe that a Christian is bound by the Old Testament law. However, we read in Galatians 6:1-2, "Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted. Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." When the fact that we are no longer under the law is taken to mean that God has changed His moral law or that once we are saved we will not be judged by that law, a serious error is being propagated. We must confess that we all have our faults. We all struggle with our carnal nature. Likewise, most of us will confess that we are not as spiritual as we would wish to be. We believe the Apostle Paul is referring to something much more serious than we would normally refer to as a "fault." When there is outright sin within the community of Christ it is a sad state of affairs if no one is spiritual enough to confront the individual. The confrontation is not to show our dislike for such an individual but to "restore such a one, in the spirit of meekness." We believe it is by doing thus that we fulfill the law of Christ. Thus the Lord Jesus Christ is our Lawgiver.

Jesus Christ is our Judge, He is our lawgiver and He is our King. In I Timothy 6:15 we read, "Which in his times he shall show, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, the Lord of Lords." If the Lord Jesus Christ is not King of your life now, He will not be your King at a future time.

It is a serious matter to realize that Jesus Christ is at this present time our Judge, Lawmaker and King. We praise God that "he will save us." Unlike the human judge who had no power to save the individual without relinquishing his duty to protect the law, our divine Judge shed His precious blood to be both our Savior and our Judge. His laws are so absolute that it is impossible to keep them perfectly. But He has given us the Holy Spirit to help us each day of our life. This is a wonderful part of our salvation. As our King He expects us to be willing to obey His commandments. He realizes that we are but dust and not sinlessly perfect. We do not believe we lose our salvation every time we stumble or fall spiritually, but we can lose our salvation by not acknowledging Him as King of our life and thus departing from the faith! Even then, in most cases we believe, He is

willing to restore us and once again be our Savior.

Brother James M. Hite  
816 E. Birch St.  
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## RECEIVE US

"Receive us; we have wronged no man, we have corrupted no man, we have defrauded no man." II Corinthians 7:2.

Servants of the most High God should be willing to be taken advantage of, but they should never take advantage of others. It is sad to see those who profess godliness and trust in God, begging and arousing pity in others for themselves. There are those who make use of the brethren's hospitality. It is only right to be hospitable to one another, but we can wear out a good thing. We should not behave so our behavior causes others to hesitate when we approach them. It is understood that we are not going to steal from others or cause others to sin. But so often we take advantage of another person's good nature and we should not. It is easy to approach the brethren with our needs, but it takes faith to remain silent to our brethren and go to the Lord about them instead. If the brethren are in tune with the Spirit of God, He will reveal those needs if the church is to address them.

With all the welfare, Medicare, and Social Security abounding in all its forms sometimes it is difficult to believe that our Father is rich in houses and lands. He holds the wealth of the world in His hands. We need not go hat in hand to any man. Are we beggars seeking the alms of this world? Or are we servants of the living God? The prodigal son, when he had lived his way and when he had come to the end of his earthly supply said, "I will arise and go to my father." Shouldn't we?

Brother Lynn H. Miller  
RD 2 Box 561  
Newmanstown, PA 17073

## OBITUARY LAVERNE KEENEY

Brother Laverne Emerson Keeney, 65, of 263 Yummerdall Road, Lititz, Pennsylvania died at 11:51 A.M. Saturday, March 19, 1994, at his home, after a lengthy illness.

He was the husband of Ellen (Wise) Keeney. The couple observed their 46th wedding anniversary, June 21, 1993.

The service was held at 2:00 P.M., March 23, 1994 at Lititz Dunkard

Brethren Church, Clay Road, Lititz, Pennsylvania. Officiating at the service were Elder Dean St. John and Elder David Kegerreis. Burial was in Middle Creek Brethren Cemetery, Ephrata Township.

Elder Keeney was born in North Hopewell Township, York County on October 11, 1928. He was the son of the late Norman and Elsie (Godfrey) Keeney. He served as an elder and minister with the Conservative Brethren Church at Millbach. He was owner and operator of the L. E. Keeney Construction Company of Lititz.

Elder Keeney also is survived by a son Lamar E., husband of Jean (Kegerreis) of Denver, Pennsylvania, two daughters, Joanne E., wife of Dale Longenecker of Bethel, Pennsylvania and Donna M., wife of Eldon Weaver of Lititz, Pennsylvania, eight grandchildren, three sisters, Elva Schildt of Taneytown, Maryland, Marguerite Marks of Felton, Pennsylvania and Dorothy Marks of Red Lion, Pennsylvania, also two brothers, Kenneth of York, Pennsylvania and Norman of Red Lion, Pennsylvania.

#### NOTE OF THANKS

I wish to thank everyone for prayers and sympathy cards I received. Also for the cards Laverne received during his three years of illness. They had been very uplifting to him. He is missed as a husband, father and grandfather.

Sister Ellen Keeney

#### NEWS ITEM

##### BETHEL, PENNSYLVANIA

The Bethel Congregation is looking forward to our spring revival, April 16 through 23. Bro. Dale Jamison has promised to be with us, the Lord willing. Pray that we be more determined to do His will instead of our own, in each step we make in life. Do we ask ourselves, "Is this to the honor and glory of God or the honor and glory of man"?

"In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths." Prov. 3:6.

Come and worship with us.

Sister Fern Wolfe

##### PLEVNA, INDIANA

The Plevna Congregation plans a Spring Revival, April 9 through 16 with Bro. Phil Gish of Casstown, Ohio as the Evangelist.

Services will be at 7:30 P.M. nightly. Lovefeast services will be held at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m., April 15. All are welcome to come and worship with us. Please pray that souls may be won to the Lord!

Sister Verda Lorenz, Cor.



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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXXIII

MARCH 15, 1995

NO. 6

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## TWO PRAYERS

Last night my little boy confessed to me  
Some childish wrong;  
And kneeling at my knee,  
He prayed with tears—  
"Dear God, make me a man  
Like Daddy—wise and strong;  
I know you can."

Then while he slept  
I knelt beside his bed,  
Confessed my sins,  
And prayed with low-bowed head.  
"O God, make me a child  
Like my child here—  
Pure, guileless,  
Trusting Thee with faith sincere."

Andrew Gillies

## CHILDREN

Young couples have a natural, God-given desire for children. Marriage is not simply an enjoyment of each other; it is a means of continuing the human family. Despite propaganda advocating family-limiting plans and abortion, it is still God's will that children be born.

The Psalmist speaks of the desirability of children. He likens children to a quiver full of arrows. Arrows would have been very valuable to a soldier or hunter of his day. He would spend his spare time fashioning arrows, so they would be available when he needed them. Children should be valued as the offspring of God-given love and union.

Children formed a part of Jesus' ministry. When parents brought their children to be blessed, He wished to do so. Although His disciples could see no reason to bother Him, He wanted to hold and touch them. He used them as object lessons for the disciples. The willingness of children to trust and obey served as a lesson that adults must be willing to trust and obey God. The Kingdom of God is available only to those who are willing to humble themselves as little children. Too many adults feel they know more than is necessary, so they should be accorded special privileges. They begin to think they can approach God upon their own terms instead of accepting His. Children learn early to accept the terms granted them by their parents and other adults. In school, sports and other activities they must follow the rules established. Adults must accept the rules and conditions that surround God's Kingdom. Negatively, we are told that to not accept as a child, we can not even see the Kingdom of God, let

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alone enter it. Positively, we are told that to humble ourselves as little children will secure for us an entrance into the Kingdom of God.

This need for having a child-like trust ties in with the words Jesus spoke to Nicodemus. He spoke of a need for a new birth. Nicodemus could only envision a natural birth, which he knew was impossible. Jesus told him that there must be a rebirth to see the Kingdom of Heaven. When he could not comprehend this rebirth, Jesus spoke of a rebirth by water and blood. Without this rebirth there could be no entrance into the Kingdom of Heaven. Jesus repeated that it was necessary to be born again. "Ye must be born again." This is birth parallel with but different from the natural birth. It is a choice given to men to accept or reject the plan of salvation delivered by God. It is secured through the blood shed by Jesus Christ. It is done. It is offered. It must be accepted to be operative.

While Jesus speaks of the need of childlikeness in accepting, trusting and obeying, the Apostle Paul speaks of a need of maturity in knowing the Word of God. He speaks of not being children in understanding, but of being men. We must mature in our study and understanding of His Word. Just as children must continue to grow, develop and mature, so Christians must not remain static. They must be growing. In order to serve Him better we need to know His revealed will. To know it we must study His Word, the Bible. The Bible does not simply contain the Word of God; it is the Word of God.

The Bible speaks of the responsibilities of God's followers. It also speaks of the rewards. Being a child of God brings with it a great blessing. As the adoptive children of God, we become a part of His family. Once a child is adopted into the family that is not his birth family he has all the privileges of the other family members, even if they are children by natural birth. The adoptive child becomes an heir. God's adoptive children have become heirs of God. The heir is in line to receive the inheritance gathered, invested and marshaled by the parents. Our position as a child of God is secured by the price paid by His Only begotten Son, Jesus Christ. The natural Son died so we could be adopted into His Father's family. As part of that family we will inherit the same Heavenly Home as the Son. We have an account of His ascension into Heaven from the Mount of Olives. He had made a promise earlier that if He went away to His Father's House, He would prepare there a place for the adoptive children of God. He promised further that if He prepared it, He would return to gather God's children so they might have their inheritance.

An inheritance gained here may take wings and fly away, if not

managed properly. The inheritance He has prepared is eternal.

Children are an heritage of the Lord. This includes children born naturally, as well as those born supernaturally. Are you a child of God?

MCC

### **MISSION ACCOMPLISHED**

As we are flying 35,000 feet above the Atlantic Ocean, each hour brings us 530 miles closer home and 550 miles farther away from Kenya. There we left many people who we learned to know and to love. As we were preparing to take our departure, many of them wanted us to stay longer and made us promise to come back soon. We gave each other farewell; cheeks were wet with tears and we were knit together in the bond of love for each other. We left part of our hearts in Africa. We do not deserve half the respect and honor that these dear people gave us while there. As we reminisce over the past six weeks, our first mission adventure to Africa, we thank God for protection, good health, friendship, fellowship, and for opening the door to spreading the gospel in Africa and the very promising possibility of starting a Dunkard Brethren mission in Africa.

When we were planning this virgin mission, we submitted our lives wholly to the Lord. We wanted His will to be done. We wanted to live with the natives in their homes, eat their food, and win their hearts. All these things we did and we enjoyed our entire stay. We preached twenty-one sermons, had many visitations and fellowships in many homes (including Sis. Theresa's home), had several counseling sessions, and spoke at two universities. I must truthfully admit that people in Africa are hungry for the Word of God.

We rented a car to get around to visit different homes. Two days were spent in Mombasa which is on the Indian Ocean coast. It is very hot at Mombasa. We visited several homes and a church there. Many roads are very bad in Kenya. We also visited West Kenya including Nakuru, Kisumu, Kakamega, and Kitale. This was "bush country." One week was spent there visiting different homes and churches. The churches are very small, ranging from fifteen to forty members. The church buildings range from a grassy spot under a tree to a little framework of twigs, to a small mud hut building, a tin covered building, or even a room in a home. However, these people are so thankful to God for their church and what little they have. Their prayers are earnest, fervent, effectual prayers that put many a Dunkard Brethren prayers, even your unworthy servant's prayers, to shame.



The people so often told us that they were so glad that we were willing to stay in their homes so they could visit with us. They said that most all white missionaries come to Kenya and stay in hotels and use the mission money to do sight-seeing and do not visit in people's homes. I hope and pray and also feel that we have made an impression on these people's lives. We were the first white people that many of the young children saw.

When we accepted the call to go to Kenya, our desire was to go and live an exemplary life among the people so that they would want to be like us. My vision for a mission in Africa was to go there and find a young minister who would be willing to preach the Biblical principles of the Bible as understood by the Dunkard Brethren Church and to carry on the work there after our return home. Praise God!! This has happened!! We found several young preachers who made a commitment to preach the Dunkard Brethren Doctrine. After spending several hours of counseling with them I asked, "Are you sure this is what you want to do? Are you willing not to wear the neck tie?" The answer was, "Yes; I have already gotten rid of my neck ties, Brother Paul, I want to look like you." Tears of joy filled my eyes as I took off my coat and put it on him. He looked in the mirror and smiling said, "I like it." I said, "You may have it." I left both of my suits in Kenya for these two brethren. Pray for them that they will have strength to keep their commitment and that God will use them in a mighty way.

I also had a vision before going to Africa that after we would be there a few weeks that we would have to fax a letter home for the sisters to get together and make some coverings for the women in Africa. This vision was not fulfilled, but, two days before we left, Theresa asked if Mary would leave one of her prayer veils there so the sisters could see how it was made. Praise the Lord!

There is much work to be done in Africa. I have spent many sleepless hours at night while in Africa, tears wetting my pillow as I lay there thinking of the needs of the people in Africa; both financial and spiritual, thinking how they strive for survival, thinking how contented they seem to be with nothing. Thinking how blessed we are in America, and thanking God for opening the doors in Africa.

We thank God for giving us the opportunity to go to Africa on this mission adventure. We feel enriched and blessed through this experience. It was an experience of a lifetime which we will never forget. We will cherish it the rest of our days.

We also want to thank all of you brethren and sisters for your



earnest prayers for us while we were gone. We could feel the prayers of all of you. Also, for the many cards and letters. One day we received fourteen pieces of mail. Sister Theresa was really impressed. She said, "You have many friends."

We know that not all of you can go to Africa, but, we pray that God will open your hearts to support the work that has already been started there, both financially and with prayer.

Just to show you how hard it is for me to write and how slow a writer that I am, we traveled over 3,000 miles while I was writing this. Just a few more hours and we will be home.

We arrived home safely at 4:30 P.M., February 22. Praise God for a safe flight. We thank God for what we feel was a successful mission trip. We pray that He will water and prosper the seed that has been sown to a bountiful harvest.

Again, we want to thank each one of you for your earnest, prayerful, and encouraging support. May God bless you all.

In Christian love,

Brother Paul and Sister Mary Stump

## **FAITH**

### **Part 2**

#### **Biblical Examples**

The subject of faith and all its derivatives is one of the most important subjects in the Bible.

There are many names of people, who are mentioned and commended for their faith.

Hebrews 11:7. Noah, warned by God of things to come, of which he had not seen, by FAITH, built the ark on dry ground. The reward and blessing he received was the saving of his household.

Hebrews 11:4. By FAITH ABEL offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, which proved his righteousness.

II Timothy 4:7. The Apostle Paul, not bragging, said, "I have kept the FAITH".

Ephesians 6:21. Tychicus was a FAITHFUL minister in the Lord.

Hebrews 11:5. Enoch by FAITH, was translated that he should not see death.

Colossians 4:9. Onesimus was a FAITHFUL and beloved brother.

Hebrews 11:8. Abraham, by FAITH when he was called to go out unto a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.

Hebrews 11:17. By FAITH Abraham offered his son, Isaac, as a

sacrifice, but God stayed his hand. Abraham became known as "The Father of the Faithful."

Colossians 1:7. Epaphras was a FAITHFUL minister.

Revelation 2:13. Antipas was a FAITHFUL martyr.

Acts 6:8. Stephen was full of FAITH and power.

Hebrews 11:29. By FAITH, Moses led the children of Israel through the Red Sea, as if by dry land.

There are many more instances in the Bible of individuals who, when tried, proved their faith.

In Jude 3 we are admonished to earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.

I Corinthians 16:13, "Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong."

I Corinthians 4:2. Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.

#### The Reward for Faithfulness

Matthew 25:21, "...Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord."

Brother Paul R. Myers  
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## FOR SENIOR CHRISTIANS

### ...QUIET TIMES

I have noticed as I visit older Christians that their homes are very quiet compared to our busy home still filled with the sound of students and young people. But, that is another phase of life that is beautiful and special. It is the place where God has placed you at this time and God's timing is perfect.

Have you ever been in a garden in the evening? Honey-heavy bees are home from the clover and the moths suck the sweetness of the flowers as the air cools and the evening sky turns to shades of red. The breeze has quieted and the leaves hardly quiver. Everything seems to be at peace and the heart seems to swell with feelings of contentment.

Have you ever walked alone through falling snow at night? Like a mantle it wraps you away from the familiar world of things and people and their cares and claims. It comes down as silently as heaven's grace. It seems to wipe away the ugliness and scars of the day and makes all things one in white simplicity. The snow is a solitude of silence.

Yet, deeper than the silence of a garden in the evening and deeper than the silence of the falling snow is the silence of the presence of the Heavenly Father. You have that special contentment as His child that cannot be experienced by anyone else in the world. Your thoughts can be stayed on the things that are good and true and merciful and you can face life with a stilled mind and a refreshed and restored spirit. You are never alone with God.

You have all welcomed home someone you love who has been away for a long time. In the midst of the turmoil, the jostling elbows and vibrant voices, when the one you love comes through the gate, for a moment the noise and confusion fade away and you reach out with your hands and your heart. There is only love and peace and joy at that moment. That is something you always look forward to. It brings you another kind of peace.

I can remember my Grandmother Wertz. When I went to visit her after my grandfather was gone, the first thing she always did was reach out for my hand. She would hold it tightly...sometimes for most of the time I would visit with her. What love and strength I received from those moments and how I cherish them. Those were quiet times but yet there was a noisy pounding in my heart expressing a special, unexplainable love.

Beneath the waves, the ocean waters lie silent and untroubled. Above the clouds, the heavens are undisturbed. Above the level of your thoughts, inside your inmost heart...there is a place of peace. It is a unique time of being able to gaze into the depths of your heart and bridge the gap from man to God. It is a special gift and not an empty experience.

Isn't music more beautiful when there are rests? How much deeper is the passionate outpouring of God's Spirit as you contemplate unuttered feelings. The conversation of your soul with God is wordless and wonderful and there is only time for it as you become a senior Christian.

It is in silence that God writes on the emptiness of space and punctuates His sentences with lights that illuminate the skies at night. It is in silence that great thoughts are born and our lives find a special richness and meaning.

The center of silence contains God. This can strengthen you and give you courage. It can inspire you and in turn, you can inspire others. This may be your special ministry.

Silence is deeper when it contains communion with God. It is really golden! There you come into the living presence of God. There



you understand your sonship or that you are a daughter of the living King of Kings. You walk with Him through the meadows of your mind...in the valley of contentment...by the pool of renewal...and in the place of silence.

Yes, the silence of the mature years, the reflection of God's grace, the ministry that comes from this time is God's gift to you. Always think of it in that way. God be praised.

Brother Len Wertz

## RESTORE THE JOY OF SALVATION

Psalms 51:12a, "Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation;"

Romans 14:17, "For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost."

David's plea was for a restoration of his salvation. An honest reading of the verses preceding our opening verse will confirm this. Yet it is possible, we believe, to lose the joy of our salvation without actually losing our salvation.

In Hebrews 12:1 we read, "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us." Verse 2 finishes this thought with the words, "Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross..." When we bear the weight of disobedience we will suffer the loss of joy. Satan may provide a false sense of exhilaration when we choose to lay aside the pure teachings of Holy Scripture, but this never brings the real joy of the Lord into our lives. We believe that many mental and emotional problems are brought about by going against the light of truth God has revealed unto an individual.

We believe that David's temptation is one of the sins which doth so easily beset us. The sin of adultery has not only caused many to lose the joy of their salvation but has literally caused them to lose their salvation. Temptation in this area seems to come to the majority of individuals some time in their lives. Jesus Christ warned in Matthew 5:28, "But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart." Temptation is not sin until we act upon it. Yet how many suffer the loss of the joy of salvation because of impure thoughts.

The loss of a mate through death is a heavy cross to bear. We believe the loss of a lifetime partner through divorce is a heavier cross to bear. Yet, like our Lord Jesus Christ, we must look beyond the

cross to the joy we can experience through obedience.

We sincerely doubt the possibility of sinless perfection in this life, although some Bible verses do seem to teach this. Yet this does not excuse us from striving for righteousness. All too many professing Christians substitute the thrills of worldly pleasures for the joy of serving the Lord in righteousness. It is true that David said, "Restore unto me the joy of THY salvation;" and our righteousness must be God's righteousness, not our own. Yet salvation must also be a personal experience and, we believe, so must our righteousness.

Paul's parting words to the church at Corinth are found in II Corinthians 13:11, "Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you." The joy of salvation can be lost when we are no longer of one mind. Sin in the church can not be ignored. There is a place for rules and regulations. But God's greatest desire for His Church is that we live in peace. This does not mean that we accept false teachers and groups as fellow Christians. This would be a false peace. It does not mean that we compromise Scriptural truth. This is also a false peace. However, it does mean that we should strive to get along with one another. Many Bible scholars believe that "perfect" in the Scriptures refers to maturity. Are we too often like little children who want their own way?

It would seem as if many get great pleasure out of friction in fellowships but look down on joy in the Holy Ghost. We believe that salvation should be a real joy. We appreciate the joy of the Lord we have experienced in some of our song services. We have no problem with someone rising their hands in joy or saying "Praise the Lord."

We pray that God may restore the joy of salvation to our hearts as individuals and to the church as a body. If you have never experienced the joy of salvation the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses from all sin. The prayer of David, "Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me," is for those who have never been saved as well as for those who have fallen from the faith. The obedience of triune immersion baptism will bring the joy of the Lord's salvation to your heart and soul.

Brother James M. Hite  
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### **NOT MY WILL**

"For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will

of him that sent me." John 6:38.

We write this to try to attain a better understanding of God's will for our lives. We can read in the scriptures concerning God's will and how others have responded to it. We read in John 17, that the Lord struggled with God's will. Is it so unusual that likewise we will struggle with it?

Often we think of God's will within our own frame of reference. It is dangerous to put limitations on Him. David Brainerd became a missionary to the Indians, yet he had no knowledge of their language. George Muller started many orphanages all over Great Britain, yet he had no money. These things would discourage those of us with common sense, but one lesson we can learn is that God is not limited by common sense. Our Lord knew that He had to suffer and die for the sins of all mankind, and Paul also knew that his end would be death. Can we trust God though we do not know the outcome of our lives? Do we have enough faith to believe that there is a wonderful place even now being prepared for us?

Just because I am quiet and shy does not mean that my place in God's will will be a quiet one. I must surrender my temperament to His will. We must beware of many who claim to be able to discern what God's will for others may be. Our only understanding of God comes from His Word and our daily communion with Him. We cannot afford to say, "This is the way I am, and this is the way I will always be." God is able to forgive our sins and change our hearts. God is able to change our desires and our temperaments. If we are not fully surrendered to the Lord, we cannot expect to have an easy time doing what God commands.

We must be fully surrendered to God. We must daily search the scriptures and daily commune with God. This way we will come to understand better God's will for our lives.

Brother Lynn H. Miller  
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## **SIXTY YEARS AGO**

March 15, 1935

### **THE TEMPTATION**

B. F. Masterson

"Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil." (Matt. 4:1).

"Then" indicates a point of time. When was Jesus led up?



"And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:....Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness..."

Such is the experience of the child of God. Baptized and approved of God, handed over to the devil in the wilderness to fight life's battles.

Question not the validity of your baptism because it was succeeded by fierce temptation. Jesus was the Son of God standing on the banks of the river, but as much the Son of God when tempted by all the forces of hell in the wilderness, and so were you dear brother. Notice, "led up," by the same spirit that descended upon him at his baptism. Understand that temptation is not an accident, but each child of God is tempted. It is God's plan that all His created intelligence had to pass through this test. The devil, his angels, and our first parents are those who failed, and many since.

The wilderness is not a thousand miles away from the newly baptized child of God, his eyes fixed on Christ and heaven and right across from sea to sea lies the wilderness, and one cannot escape it. Life itself is a temptation.

When the tempter came to the Master he said three things. A certain writer says, "His program is short and shallow beyond those three things he has never advanced one step, he is not an originator of new temptations. You can weigh them, you can measure them, you know where they begin and how they operate and how they close."

Unlike God's word which is unfathomable. If he deceives you, you must take the blame, he is a great bamboozler, and the mischief is that the people want to be bamboozled, or "tricked."

He has three weapons with which he endeavors to smite you. In our lesson we find their names, size and capacity.

Let us hear what the arch tempter said, and when the tempter came to him he said, "If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread." This was an appeal to immediate necessity. He comes in the spirit of benevolence; he shrinks into as little a devil as possible. Why you must be very hungry, having fasted forty days and nights, the pangs of hunger must be something terrible. If I could make bread I would most gladly do so, but if you are the Son of God you certainly have power to perform miracles, command that these stones be made bread. He addressed himself to the appetite of the moment.

He has an unlimited supply in stock, such as it is, he is able to accommodate the desires of the flesh; what the flesh desires the most he will supply. He has agents galore to do business for him, he has in stock every article along the line of worldly pleasure. If you desire wealth, he has all the inventions to acquire it by unfair means.

If you crave the foolish fashions, he will accommodate you from a costly dress to no dress, (a waist band to be seen at the summer resorts). He will sympathize with you in your vain desires of the flesh, so will some parents with their children. Did you hear them in church meeting making a plea for the young members for more freedom from restraint? Well they have won the day, in dress, in games, in theatrical plays, and what not.

"Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple, And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down:..." He takes Him to the holy city, he pretends to develop His faith, he pretends to show Him how to become more religious. It was an appeal to the Son to be presumptuous, to force meaning into the divine word which the divine spirit never intended to convey. That is a trick of his.

"Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me." This ends the program. It is the temptation of bribery, it is the temptation addressed to every instinct which is in every human heart, to turn much into more.

A short and easy way of getting rich and a direct cup to rulership. Beyond these three things the devil never got. John says, "For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eye, and the pride of life, which includes all the devils inroads."

Having looked at the temptations, let us now look at the answers. "But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." This is the profound view of life as contrasted with the shallow that the devil recommends that could be sustained in only one way, eat and live. That was the foolish rich man's notion of life, on the theory if a person has enough of this world's goods what more can he want?

Jesus came to enlarge the possibilities of life, "Therefore, take no thought, saying, what shall we eat or what shall we drink, or wherewithal shall we be clothed."

Trust in the Lord and He will supply you with bread for body and soul. It is not brought to us by ravens either, but by Jesus Christ and



the Holy Spirit. "The kingdom of heaven is not meat and drink," "I have bread to eat which ye know not of." Thus Jesus strikes at the foundation of our mistakes.

He does not say, whatever you do, accumulate plenty of bread. He says, "take no thought of bread, but hunger and thirst after righteousness and these things shall be added."

The second answer: "It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God." There is a right use of liberty as contrasted with a wrong one. Notice the meaning of the word "tempt." Thou shalt not make experiments upon God, thou shalt not set traps for God; don't run into danger for the purpose of being delivered from it. Do not fall into a pit and say, God will come and deliver me out of this pit and so reveal His mighty power in the eyes of the people. Rather say, Father help me to work up to the end of my liberty, I will carry out Thy will to keep myself, to preserve my life from danger, I will not run risks for the sake of your performing miracles in my behalf.

The third answer: "Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve."

"Thou shalt worship," take that word in opposition to the word "tempt." Thou shalt not tempt but worship, give Him the heart's adoration, a consecrated offering of body, soul and spirit, that is what keeps a person upright, and he does not need to be propped up with church machinery of man's contrivance. For worship is too intensely spiritual to admit of a substitute of such as musical instruments. It is too insignificant for its noise to raise above the clouds.

The Father demands worship from the heart of His saints, under the law it may have been permissible when worship was superficial, but under the new dispensation worship is so intensely spiritual that nothing will do through which to commune with God, but the heart of man. God is a spirit and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth. (Jno. 4:24.)

How is it with us in prayer? Not in the mere fluency of sentences, which is often a temptation and mockery, but the heart's desire, the outpouring of the soul. (Rom. 8:25.)

The supreme purpose of the will, do we love God? Wait for Him, trust in Him, believe in His word?

Not only must this worship, but following and coming out of it, there must be service. Religion is not folding of the hands and an upturning of the eyes and a select expectation of something that shall fall upon us. Religion, is active service, devotion, whole hearted consecration of every power to one object.



## OBITUARY

### MARGARET DAYHOFF

Sister Margaret K. Dayhoff, born January 26, 1919, in Green Spring, West Virginia, departed this life January 10, 1995, at the age of 75. She was the daughter of the late James Dorsey and Nora (Biggs) Rockwell.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Guy, and a daughter, Marsha.

Margaret gave her heart to the Lord and was baptized September 21, 1952. She was a member of the Walnut Grove Dunkard Brethren Church, Taneytown, Maryland. On September 15, 1956, Guy and Margaret were ordained in the ministry, and served faithfully until Guy's passing in 1969. In addition to serving in this capacity, Margaret was a primary Sunday School teacher for many years, and a constant encouragement to her Brothers and Sisters in the Lord.

Surviving is a son, James W. Dayhoff, two daughters, Laurie A. Dayhoff and Cherie Lynn Jennings, all of Westminster, Maryland, and a grandson, Christian, who was a great source of joy to her.

The funeral service was held Friday, January 13, at Myers Funeral Home in Westminster. Elders Virgil Leatherman, Emmert Shelly, and Ministers Galen Shelly and Paul Nell officiated at the services. Burial was in the Evergreen Memorial Gardens, Finksburg, Maryland.

Donald Barnhouse was the pastor of Philadelphia's Tenth Presbyterian Church when his wife died and left him with young daughters to raise alone. He did something that most men could not do and that was preach at his own wife's funeral. He realized that he was obligated to his girls to try to explain or make sense out of the struggle his girls were having with what they did not understand. It was something he confronted daily. The answer came as they sat in traffic waiting for the light to change. It was a particularly bright morning and a truck pulled up in the lane next to them. It blocked the sun from view, and placed the inside of the car into a shadow. It struck him so that he turned to his girls and said, "Would you rather be hit by the truck or it's shadow?" "Oh, Daddy, that's a silly question," they responded. "Of course, we would rather be hit by the shadow—that doesn't hurt."

Margaret has walked through the shadow of the valley of death, but she was not struck by death but by its shadow—because someone else stepped between. His name is Jesus. We can only look back and say, "She won, she won, she won." "Triumphant in Christ." It is not something we do. It's something we are!

As Joan of Arc once said, "It is better to be alone with God. His friendship will not fail me, nor His counsel, nor His love. In His strength I will dare and dare, and dare until I die."

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## **ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR APRIL 1995**

April 2 - Locusts and Darkness - Exodus 10:1-29.

1. What qualifications did Pharaoh include with his repentance?
2. Explain the light in the Hebrew's dwellings.

April 9 - Death of the Firstborn - Exodus 11:1-10.

1. How did the Egyptian people show favor to the Hebrews?
2. How does God put a difference between the world and His people today?

April 16 - The Resurrection - Luke 24:1-35.

1. Why did not the disciples understand Christ's resurrection?
2. Breaking what bread will help us know Christ today?

April 23 - The Passover - Exodus 12:1-30.

1. Why was this called the Passover?
2. In what way did God change the Hebrew calendar year in regard to the Passover?

April 30 - The Exodus Begins - Exodus 12:31-51.

1. Why did Pharaoh ask Moses and Aaron to bless him?
2. Why could not an uncircumcised male eat the Passover?

## **YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR APRIL 1995**

April 2 - Lord's Supper - Matt. 26:17-30, Mark 14:12-26, Luke 22:7-22.

1. Explain the Symbolism of the bread and the cup.
2. Explain how we can avoid betraying Christ today.

April 9 - The Ascension - Luke 24:50-53, Acts 1:1-11.

1. What was the basis of the disciple's great joy following the ascension?
2. Name the promise that accompanied the ascension.

April 16 - The Resurrection - John 20:1-31.

1. How can we know Christ arose from the grave?
2. What is the purpose of God's written Word?

April 23 - Holy Kiss - Matt. 26:42, Rom 16:16, I Cor. 16:20, II Cor. 13:11-14, I Pet. 5:14, I Thess. 5:26.

1. In what ways can a kiss, a symbol of love, be used wrongfully?
2. What makes a kiss holy?

April 30 - Charity - I Cor. 13, I Peter 4:1-10.

1. Why is love so important in the life of a believer?
2. Name some of the evidences that show love is present in the life of a believer.

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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXXIII

APRIL 1, 1995

NO. 7

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## WOULD YOU WIN A SOUL TO GOD

Would you win a soul to God?  
Tell him of a Saviour's blood,  
Once for dying sinners spilt,  
To atone for all their guilt.

Tell him how the streams did glide  
From his hands, his feet, his side;  
How his head with thorns was crown'd,  
And his heart in sorrow drown'd;

How he yielded up his breath;  
How he agoniz'd in death;  
How he lives to intercede—  
Christ, our advocate and Head.

Tell him of that liberty  
Wherewith Jesus makes us free;  
Sweetly speak of sins forgiv'n—  
Earnest of the joys of heav'n.

-Wm. Hammond



## ON A HILL FAR AWAY

We are all familiar with, "The Old Rugged Cross". It is one of the best known songs of the Church. It expresses an appreciation for the work accomplished by Jesus Christ on the cross of Calvary. It connects His suffering with the forgiveness of our sins and entrance into the family of God.

Our minds are drawn by the song to the scenes of Good Friday. We see the howling mob urged on by the bigoted religious leaders crying for His crucifixion. We see Him scourged and mocked by the soldiers. We see Him before Pilate, willing to offer Himself. We see Pilate trying to wash his hands of the whole affair. We see the procession up the hill overlooking the city of Jerusalem. Jesus must carry the cross to which He will be nailed. We see Him hanging from the spikes driven through His wrists. His full body weight is borne by His arms. His feet are nailed to the cross so He can get no support from them to relieve His suffering. His physical suffering is awful, but His Spiritual suffering is worse. As He bears the sins of mankind upon His bruised body, He is separated from His Heavenly Father. He feels what every sinner must feel, when he departs this life without being at peace with God. Death and Hell could not hold Him, for that Sunday was a day of triumph as He arose from the grave and appeared to His closest associates. He was victorious, not only for Himself, but for all who would accept His substitutionary death as the cure for their sin.

The one drawback to this song is the thought that separates the events of that Good Friday from our lives today. It may become only a historical scene. It becomes separated from our daily lives. We

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must identify the historical Jesus with the Spiritual work He did for us. We may push Him back into history and forget that He is as real today as He was then. He is very much alive in Heaven preparing mansions for those who follow Him. We risk idolizing the historical Jesus and ignoring His present claims upon our lives.

One opportunity we have to identify with the historical Jesus and also to make our lives relevant in today's world is through the Lovefeast service. Jesus gave this ordinance not only to commemorate His meeting with His Apostles in the Upper Room. He gave it as a reminder of what He accomplished for us on the cross. He gave it as a reminder of the service we might offer to others. The lessons of the Lovefeast have many facets and levels for each participant.

The service begins with self-examination. We look as no other person is ever able to look into the hidden recesses of our hearts. Only God can know better what is hidden there. It is a good time for confession to God and others.

The first part of the formal Lovefeast service, the footwashing, is a time of Spiritual preparation for the deeper things to come. The service provided to one another in the washing and wiping of feet, shows the humility of Christ. Not only did He humble Himself to wash feet, but He gave Himself totally for us. This service of cleansing speaks of the purity of those surrounding the table. Though none have lived perfectly, all can symbolize their forgiven cleanliness by the washed and wiped foot.

The Supper, eaten of common bowls and of simple design, speaks of a fellowship meal. This meal looks back to that meal as a historical meal. It also looks forward to a future meal served at the wedding feast of the Lamb in Heaven.

The common bond of love is emphasized in the holy kiss that is shared around the tables. The Brethren greet Brethren and the Sisters greet Sisters, so this purest of kisses will not be sullied by an unnecessary connection with the erotic kiss of this world.

The communion of the bread and the cup emphasizes the high cost our salvation cost Jesus. His broken body and His spilled blood are brought to mind as we partake of these emblems. We are identified with what He has given and done for our soul's eternal good. We want to partake of these emblems in a worthy and reverent manner.

The Lovefeast gives us the best present day opportunity to identify with Jesus and what He did for us on the Hill Far Away. That Hill Far Away should not be just a historical event without any connection with our present life. It must be vital in our faith and in our practice.

MCC



## RESURRECTION PAST, FUTURE

Webster defines, "EASTER"— as "an annual Christian Festival in the spring of the year celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ", and "RESURRECTION,"— as "rising from the dead, coming to life again".

After God created all things including man, He pronounced it good. In a relatively short time, because of sin, man fell from that good estate to the extent that it grieved God that He had made man. Genesis 6:6.

Because of the abundance of God's love for humanity, He sent His only Son to bring the only plan of salvation whereby sinful man could be saved from their sins, by believing and obeying His teachings. That Son was Christ. He faithfully performed His duties. Many became His followers.

While Christ had followers, there were also those who found fault and wanted to do away with Him. The Apostle Paul, the greatest missionary, who ever lived, except Jesus Christ, was confronted with much opposition to his ministry. So much so that he states in Romans 7:21, "I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me." Christ's followers are confronted today by the same adversary of our souls.

Christ was a benefactor to mankind both physically and spiritually. He was the Son of God, sent to earth to bring and pay for the great plan of salvation by His shed blood on Calvary's Hill.

The more Christ did for His followers the more His enemies tried to discount His work on earth. The hatred grew so immense that He was arrested and falsely accused.

Because He said He was the Son of God, who He was, He was accused of blasphemy. He was sentenced to be put to death.

His accusers delivered Him to Pontius Pilate, the governor. He asked Jesus, "Art thou the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Thou sayest."

Pilate had to make a tough decision. He had stated that he found no fault in Jesus. Therefore, Pilate left the outcome to the people. They had then a notable prisoner named Barabbas. Pilate said unto them, "Whom will ye that I release unto you, Barabbas or Jesus which is called Christ?" Pilate knew that because of envy, they had delivered Him.

The multitude cried out to release Barabbas. "What then shall I do with Christ?" was Pilate's question. They answered, "Let Him be crucified." Pilate then scourged Jesus and delivered Him to be crucified.



The soldiers of the governor took Jesus. They very shamefully mistreated Jesus in many humiliating ways. After they subjected Him to much ridicule, they led Him away to crucify Him.

After the horrendous and horribleness of death by crucifixion, Jesus, in His last struggle of life, yielded up the ghost.

Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Joses and the mother of Zebedee's children witnessed His death.

A rich man, Joseph of Arimathea, begged Pilate for Jesus' body. Joseph prepared the body for burial and placed it in his own new tomb which he, himself, had hewn out in the rock. To seal the tomb he rolled a large stone over the mouth of the tomb.

The Chief Priests and Pharisees, for fear Christ would come forth, as He had foretold, received authority from Pilate to seal the stone and place soldiers to watch that nobody would steal Christ's body. They thought that they could prevent His resurrection.

As it began to dawn, (before daylight), some of the women who witnessed His crucifixion, made their way to the tomb. There was a great earthquake. As they approached the tomb, the angel of the Lord from Heaven, had rolled back the stone and was sitting upon it. He said to the women, "I know that ye seek Jesus... He is not here; for He is risen..." Matt. 28:5-6.

All the guarding of the tomb was useless. Jesus who was dead, arose (was resurrected) to life as was witnessed by many who saw Him after He arose.

We read in I Cor. 15:20, "But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept." indicating that there will be resurrections following Christ's resurrection.

In the future, and it may be nearer than we think, will be another resurrection. We read in Acts 24:15b, "that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust."

John 5:28-29, Jesus speaking, "Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice. And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation."

All that are in their graves shall come forth, either to the Resurrection of Eternal Life or eternal punishment. Those who are living at that time will be judged on the same basis. WHERE DO YOU WANT TO SPEND ETERNITY?

Brother Paul R. Myers  
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Canton, OH 44718

## THE COMMAND WITH PROMISE

A dear sister in her mid-eighties approached me and asked, "Why did my son die? He was such an obedient and respectful boy and Ephesians 6 says that such a person would live long. What does it mean, I don't understand?" My heart went out to her as I considered the burden she had been carrying for such a long time. She, in her mid eighties, had lost her son in a tragic accident when he was seventeen. A long time to wonder, "If this scripture can not be counted on, what else will let me down!"

At first appearance it would seem evident that the meaning of this passage is the promise of a long life to each person who would honor and obey their parents. Our faith can be challenged as we analyze life experience in light of this interpretation, as we observe the death of youth who by all appearances were of excellent character, while the openly rebellious and disobedient seem to thrive. Does this God whom we desire to know become more unknowable and distant? Do we simply say (as an escape) that His ways are higher than ours and past finding out? Or perhaps we conclude that this young person was inwardly indifferent despite the outward evidence and our all knowing God dwelt with him accordingly? It is our desire that those who have struggled and agonized over these questions would find rest and that the rest of us would be challenged to obedience by seeing this picture in a larger frame.

From the beginning God created man in His image, male and female, together forming the first and most important institution, the family. Sin entered the perfect scene and Satan has been warring against the family ever since. He disrupts the communication and fellowship between Creator and created. He diverts the steps of the created away from the Creator's plan. He is intent on destroying the structure that God chose as the primary source of reflecting His image. God's communication about Abraham reveals vital information about the family structure.

Gen. 18:19, "For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment; that the Lord may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him." God had spoken future, long range promises, blessings, plans and protection for His people, and the conditions He established were dependent upon His ways being passed from one generation to another. From fathers to sons, mothers to daughters. A transfer of values, experiences, convictions and instructions for a solid foundational base for the strength, the faith, and the safety of future generations. That the God of Abraham



would be the God of Isaac, and of Jacob, and of Israel, and so forth and that His values would be their values. Wisdom is learning from past experience, so mistakes are not repeated and proper actions are.

We find the first source of the Ephesians passage in Exodus 20:12, when God presented the Ten Commandments to His chosen people, Israel. A parallel thought is in Deut. 6, where God reveals His plan for the primary source of education being the home, with the parents as instructors. This is to prepare the next generation for victorious living, giving to them the purpose and the meaning for living and believing as they do (v. 20-25). For the passing of information effectively, lines of communication need to be maintained, relationships nurtured, and parameters established. Parents are instructed to see children as God intended, a gift from Him, to be stewards of, to develop them into weapons of warfare against Satan's kingdom (see Psa. 127). Children are commanded to honor (to place in high value upon) their parents and to obey them (the development of attitudinal and behavioral patterns). This command was so crucial to God's plan that failure to obey had tremendous consequence (see Deut. 21:18-21). The resultant blessing coinciding with obedience to the command is found in the Exodus reference and is often repeated. Let's take a look at some of them. Ex. 20:12, "Honour thy father and thy mother: THAT THY DAYS MAY BE LONG UPON THE LAND WHICH THE LORD THY GOD GIVETH THEE." Deut. 5:16, "Honour thy father and thy mother, as the Lord thy God hath commanded thee; THAT THY DAYS MAY BE PROLONGED, and that it may go well with thee, IN THE LAND WHICH THE LORD THY GOD GIVETH THEE." Deut. 5:33, "Ye shall walk in all the ways which the Lord your God hath commanded you, that ye may live, and that it may be well with you, and that YE MAY PROLONG YOUR DAYS IN THE LAND WHICH YE SHALL POSSESS." Deut. 11:8-9, "Therefore shall ye keep all the commandments which I command you this day, that ye may be strong, and go in and possess the land, whither ye go to possess it; And that YE MAY PROLONG YOUR DAYS IN THE LAND, which the LORD sware unto your fathers to give unto them and to their seed, a land that floweth with milk and honey." Deut. 11:21, "THAT YOUR DAYS MAY BE MULTIPLIED, AND THE DAYS OF YOUR CHILDREN, IN THE LAND which the Lord sware unto your fathers to give them,..."

As we consider the setting of these commands and promises, we see them addressed CORPORATELY to the nation Israel rather than to individuals. We see also the substance of the promise, a principle to maintain the standards He had established for their moral,



financial, and spiritual integrity. The failure to do so would weaken the very fiber of their existence and would result in losing their leadership and rule in the land God had given them to dwell in. Their enemies would come in and overthrow them. They would be displaced, and exiled into lands not their own: **THEIR DAYS WOULD BE SHORTENED IN THE LAND WHICH GOD HAD GIVEN THEM.** The following references reveal clearly this principle: Deut. 4:25-26, "When thou shalt beget children, and children's children, and ye shall have remained long in the land, and shall corrupt yourselves, and make a graven image, or the likeness of any thing, and shall do evil in the sight of the LORD thy God, to provoke him to anger: I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day, that ye shall soon utterly perish from off the land whereunto ye go over Jordan to possess it; **YE SHALL NOT PROLONG YOUR DAYS UPON IT,** but shall utterly be destroyed." We can repeatedly observe Israel's rise and fall from spiritual and moral integrity and stability, to degeneracy and failure. Children esteeming and valuing their parents instruction was God's way of family strength and integrity being passed from one generation to the next, insuring community and national strength and stability. The failure of this would mean deterioration on a community level, then national, and again its people would find themselves overthrown, defeated from within before being conquered from without.

A noted and respected advocate of the family was asked if he could pinpoint the one key element in the breakdown of society. As he discussed the complexity of the answer, he isolated disrespect as the common thread present in every level of society and the direct correlation between disrespect and immorality.

Harvard sociologist, Zimmerman, in his book "The Family and Civilization" (1947) reports that every powerful civilization—Assyrian, Babylonian, Sumerian, Greek, Roman, and Western, began with the male and female relationships resembling the "Marriage that God created". But every civilization declined, and the decline can be carefully charted by looking at the downfall of each family system in each culture. Under "Symptoms of an Atomistic Age" (he lists 8) he mentions: (1) There is an increased public disrespect for parents, parenthood, and authority in general, so that parenthood becomes harder for those who still try to rear children. (2) There is an increase in juvenile delinquency, promiscuity and rebellion.

Our nation today is an existing example of a once blessed nation, moving successfully through time by men perpetuating biblical morality, ethics, and financial values, to a people who in a relatively short period in time of postwar laxity, spawned a generation of youth pulling loose from their moorings, who thumbed their noses at

authority of any kind and anything that smelled of traditional mores, sowing a crop of wild oats that today is maturing into moral and ethical relativism. It appears evident that current and future events which will be tomorrow's history will again prove the perfectness of God's omniscient wisdom with this time resistant principle standing as a testimony to ignorance. When people ignore their history, they are bound to repeat it. A people who honour their parents and learn from their wisdom will remain long in the land that God has given to them. Mal. 4:6, "And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse."

Ephesians 6:1-3 does not stand alone, separated by chapter delineations, but is a continuation of instruction which begins on a personal individual level, moves to the husband/wife relational responsibilities and attitudes, then progresses in proper order to the children.

We see respect as the fiber that holds the fabric of society together, but what is it? How can we define it? What does it mean to honor? Someone has well defined it as follows: HONOR: a DECISION we make to place high value, worth and importance on another person by viewing him or her as a priceless gift, and granting that person a position in our lives worthy of great respect. LOVE involves putting that decision into action. NOTE: The lower the value we attach to a person, the easier we can "justify" dishonoring them with expression of voice and inappropriate words and actions.

WHY HONOR AND OBEY? "for it is right!" Parents stand in the place of God for a time in our lives and we get His will for our lives through them; therefore rebellion against parents is rebellion against God. NOTE: The DECISION to honor and obey is not dependent on worthiness. (1) God's command was not conditional. (2) The highest form of love is to bestow honor on one who does not deserve it.

HOW DO I HONOR MY PARENTS? (1) Listening carefully to their counsel. (Prov. 2:1, 3:1, 4:1, 5:1, 10:1, 13:1). (2) Acting wisely. (Prov. 27:11). (3) Living so I have a clear conscience, and they hear good reports of me. (Prov. 15:30). (4) Being committed to sexual and moral purity. (Prov. 5:1-11).

By searching out the foundational scriptures for the Ephesians 6 promise we can view the intent of the writer. We see that the meaning is far greater than the extended years of individuals but rather the future of families, of churches, of communities, of nations, depends on the obedience to this "command of promise", and still, the responsibility rests with each of us, individually!

Brother Jason L. Reed



## ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

“Do we have miracles today?”

The standard belief of the scientific establishment in our day is that miracles are impossible and that genuine miracles have never occurred, either in Biblical days or in our day. It is the claim of many that supposed miracles can always be explained in terms of natural laws in some way. The witnesses, under the excitement of the moment, may have been mistaken in what they claimed to have seen. With the advance in scientific knowledge, more and more phenomena, once thought to be supernatural, are found to have a total natural explanation. Every natural process is known to vary statistically about some typical method and rate of operation and thus a supposed miracle may really be only a rare variation in the particular process. These “scientific reasons” discredit God and miracles that occur today and those that occurred in Bible times.

I agree that God might use some of these means to create miracles because His laws are very reliable. On the other hand, since God established the laws, He is also able to change them at His will. To say that miracles are impossible is actually to deny that God exists. The question, then, is not whether miracles CAN happen, but whether they DO happen. This depends upon whether God has adequate reason for superseding His ordinary laws or not and whether there is evidence of such.

There might well be two kinds of miracles. The first type is what we can call a “miracle of creation.” This involves actual creative activity on the part of God Himself. We know scientifically that there are just two basic laws controlling all natural phenomena, the Laws of Energy Conservation and the Law of Energy Degradation. Thus, if a particular event involves a new act of creation, of matter or energy or order, then it is a genuine miracle that only the power of God Himself could accomplish since He alone is the Creator. These miracles are somewhat rare. The signs recorded in the Gospel of John would be examples. Turning the water into wine, feeding the five thousand and the raising of Lazarus from the dead were creative miracles...done that people might believe in Jesus.

One special miracle of creation is actually very common, even today. That is the miracle of regeneration...when a person is “born again.” This is true miracle in the fullest sense of the word.

The second type of miracle is the miracle of providence. This does not involve a divine intervention in the two basic laws, but is a special ordering of the manner or time of occurrence of a particular process. Such a miracle was shown in the Phillipian earthquake in Acts 16



and the three and a half years drought in Elijah's time. God often uses His angels to accomplish miracles of this kind.

Providential miracles still occur today. Every true Christian knows this from personal experience. God works in unlikely and remarkable ways. Answers to prayer the providential ordering of circumstances and all other parts of this miracle will always be in conformity with Biblical revelation and will honor the Lord Jesus Christ.

Do miracles as we read about in the Bible still occur today? You can bet your life on it. God's arm is not shortened. We can expect miracles. We should praise Him for the awesomeness of them.

Brother Len Wertz

### **WORTHY IS THE LAMB**

James 2:5-7, "Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him? But ye have despised the poor. Do not rich men oppress you, and draw you before the judgment seats? Do not they blaspheme that worthy name by the which ye are called."

Revelation 5:11-12, "And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands; Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing."

It would seem a large portion of the earthly church has its priorities mixed up. Many are rich in this world's goods, compared to the standard of living of many in the world. It is seemingly poor in faith. Many are reluctant to give to the needy or to the work of the church unless their own financial situation represents a surplus.

The words of James are as true today as they were in the day in which they were written. "But ye have despised the poor." All too often we look down our noses at those who struggle to make ends meet through no fault of their own.

James goes beyond our love of money and lack of love for our fellow man. He asks the question, "Do not they blaspheme that worthy name by which ye are called?" All too many in the earthly church give their time and money to those who blaspheme that worthy name by the which we are called.

Are we truly willing to join in with the angels, the beasts and the elders and proclaim that "Worthy is the lamb that was slain"? Do we

really realize how precious the blood that was shed for you and me really is?

Because Jesus Christ was willing to die on Calvary's cross He is worthy to receive power. In Matthew 28:18 we read, "And Jesus came and spake unto them saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth." Does the fear of the power of men keep us from standing firm on the Word of God? Do we forget that Jesus Christ has more power than the powers that be on earth?

The Lord Jesus Christ is worthy of all riches. When He walked the earth He could have been numbered among the wealthy and famous. Yet He chose to identify Himself with the poor and homeless. Are our desires for the riches of this world or for eternal blessings?

Jesus Christ is worthy of all wisdom. It was once asked if God understands modern computers. Do we stop to realize that all wisdom came from God and that Jesus Christ was the co-creator of all things? Are we wise in the things of this world and foolish in not seeking the wisdom of Holy Scripture?

Jesus Christ is worthy of all strength. Jesus Christ was not the feminine looking individual pictured in many famous paintings. We believe he was a man among all men. Yet He chose to take the way of nonresistance and give it as an example to His followers.

Jesus Christ is worthy of all honour. We worship Him because He is God the Son. But it should go beyond even this. We should never give honour to another by word or deed over and beyond the honour we give our Lord. Do our words and actions give Him the honour He deserves?

Jesus Christ is worthy of all glory. He is not willing to share His glory with anyone save the Father and the Holy Spirit. Yet we set up persons and things and make them idols that share in the glory due to our Lord and Master.

Jesus Christ is worthy of all blessing. We desire and receive the blessings of God, but how do we bless Him? We believe He is blessed when His children live a life of obedience.

Yes, worthy is the Lamb. Have you received forgiveness through His shed blood? Does your life say WORTHY IS THE LAMB? Let us be careful that we do not blaspheme that worthy name by the which we are called or give of our time and earnings to those who do.

Brother James M. Hite  
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**SIXTY YEARS AGO**  
April 1, 1935  
**SPIRITUAL GROWTH**  
J. F. Britton

"And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him. And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man." (Luke 2:40, 52.) Thus we see that Jesus grew and developed into the various characteristics that are indispensable and essential to a full mature spiritual character.

And at the age of twelve years, Jesus manifested considerable growth; when His parents found Him in the "temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions. And all that heard Him were astonished at His understanding and answers." (Luke 2:46-47.)

Growth is a foreordained arrangement of the Creator; not only in human life, but also in the animal and vegetable kingdoms; as manifested in (Mark 4:28), "For the earth bringeth forth fruit of herself; first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in ear."

We also find the same fact is true in spiritual life. "As new born babes desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby." (I Peter 2:2.) And again Peter says, "Grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." (II Peter 3:18.)

These scriptures denote growth in the spiritual life. Therefore Peter could well say, "He that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins." (II Peter 1:9.)

We are made to believe these early Christians had made little or no advancement in the spiritual life. Hence Paul says, "For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat." (Heb. 5:12.) And as Paul earnestly desires spiritual growth, he urged the Elders, saying, "Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which He hath purchased with His own blood." (Acts 20:28.)

And so it is plain and logical, that spiritual maturity is not spasmodic nor instantaneous, but ordained only through growth, "Unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ." (Eph. 4:13.)

Now then, it stands to reason that spiritual growth must be matured and fostered by proper teaching as prescribed by the "Great



Teacher," and the Apostles. Therefore, old Father Paul admonished Timothy to "Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee." (I Tim. 4:16.) For "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." (II Tim. 3:16-17.)

So again we see that a full degree of spiritual development is only attained through growth.

Jesus grew and developed in all of the various graces, virtues and requisites of His Father's will; which enabled Him to say with authority, "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me." (Jno. 14:6.) Well might that old veteran of the "cross" exclaim, "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." (Acts 4:12.)

Thus we see that only through the vicarious atonement of Jesus Christ; can we enter into that "City that lies fore square," the home of the redeemed. As Jesus declared, "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life," there is no other way whereby we may be saved.

Jesus grew in wisdom and grace until He became the greatest Teacher and benefactor the world has ever known; He not only taught the people: He showed them how to live a perfect life. And when the time came that He should be installed into His Divine appointed office, and invested with all authority, "Jesus came from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him. But John forbade Him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest Thou to me? And Jesus answering said unto him, suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness. Then he suffered Him. And Jesus when He was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and lo, the heavens were opened unto Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon Him: and lo a voice from heaven, saying, this is My beloved Son in whom I am well pleased." (Matt. 3:13-17.)

Thus we see the "Great Teacher" showing us the way, "His way." No wonder Paul says, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek." (Rom. 1:16.)

And again the apostle Paul cries out emphatically, "Though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed." (Gal. 1:18.) Therefore, why should anyone cavil and dispute the words of Him, who spake as never man spake.

## NEWS ITEMS

### NOTICE

All business for 1995 General Conference needs to be in my hands by April 20, 1995. Thank you.

Writing Clerk of General Conference  
Brother Gene Kauffman  
313 Park Ave.  
Broadway, VA 22815  
703-896-3104

### WEST FULTON, OHIO

The West Fulton Congregation has decided to change the set date for their Spring Lovefeast to the Fourth Saturday of April.

This year our Lovefeast will be held April 22. There will be services on Sunday, April 23 also.

All are welcome. Please come.

Sister Diane Heisey, Cor.

### GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI

The Lord willing, the Grandview Congregation will have their Spring Lovefeast, April 29 to April 30, 1995. Weekend services will begin, Saturday at 11:00 A.M., with Lovefeast that evening at 6:00 P.M.

We invite all who can to come and worship with us.

Sister Deena Andrews, Cor.

### CARD OF THANKS

While it is impossible for me to answer each card and letter received over my 91st birthday, I will use this way to acknowledge their receipt.

I, personally thank each and every one for their cards, letters, prayers, words of comfort and encouragement and gifts.

It has been a great blessing to me over the years to learn and to love so many members of our beloved Church.

It is my prayer that God will richly bless you, for your kindness and thoughtfulness of me, and at the end of this life, reward us all with a Home in Heaven where there will be no more sorrow, sickness or death.

Your Brother in Christ,  
Brother Paul R. Myers

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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXXIII

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NO. 8

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## DO AND BE BLEST

Dare to think, though others frown;  
Dare in words your thoughts express;  
Dare to rise, though oft cast down;  
Dare the wronged and scorned to bless.

Dare from custom to depart;  
Dare the priceless pearl possess;  
Dare to wear it next your heart;  
Dare, when others curse, to bless.

Dare forsake what you deem wrong;  
Dare to walk in wisdom's way;  
Dare to give where gifts belong,  
Dare God's precepts to obey.

Dare what conscience says is right,  
Do what reason says is best,  
Do with all your mind and might;  
Do your duty and be blest.

## A THERMOMETER OR A THERMOSTAT?

There are two instruments which are similar in name and related in work. Both deal with the temperature of the air that surrounds us. Both are made with precision. Both are relied upon by all of us. These two instruments are the thermometer and the thermostat.

Although they have similar names, their purpose is different. As the name implies, the thermometer measures the amount of heat in the surrounding air. We often look at the thermometer to see how hot or cold it is, so we may dress accordingly. We use a thermometer to know how hot or cold the inside of our houses are. We also measure the heat or coldness of liquids and foods that we eat and drink. It is a very useful instrument.

The thermostat is a more complicated instrument. It depends upon the thermometer to discern the heat or coldness around it. When it has received this information, its mechanical parts operate in conjunction with a heater or cooler to supply air that is the proper temperature. It is set to deliver the precise temperature of air that is desired.

The thermometer reacts to the conditions around it. It only gives a reading of the temperature of the surrounding air. Although we blame the thermometer for it being too hot or too cold, the thermometer does not affect the temperature of the air, it only records it. The thermostat causes a change to happen. When it senses the air is cooler than what we desire, it causes the heater to come on and begin to heat the air to our desired temperature. It also can cool air that is hotter than what we desire, when it senses the air is too warm. The thermostat when properly adjusted will allow us to enjoy comfortable air around us.

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**THE BIBLE MONITOR****APRIL 15, 1995**

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There are many Christians who are like the thermometer. They react to the surrounding scene. If they are at Church, they are very devout and pious. If they are at work or in some other worldly gathering, they reflect the values and behavior of that gathering. They fit in wherever they are. They have no godly influence upon their surroundings.

Christians who are like thermostats do influence their surroundings. In fact they are not found in surroundings that are unacceptable in the first place. Just as thermostats change the surrounding air, so thermostat Christians change the group they are with. Their influence and good behavior is not only evident on Sunday, but every day in every place.

The thermometer and the thermostat illustrate one of the age-old problems of the Church. There have always been members of the Church who have been like thermometers. They are only indicators of what is going on around them. If it were not for Corinthian Christians, who lived as thermometers, Paul would not have written the two letters of correction that he did. They had continued to live their lives as they had formerly. There was division and distrust between the members. Despite the great price paid for the souls of men by Christ, those so bought, have often lived lives not in harmony with the will of their Savior.

The thermostat is able to produce conditions that are different from what they have been. All of its mechanical devices are designed to produce the desired changes. Christians, who act as thermostats, influence their environment. They not only affect the atmosphere by leaving the air unpolluted by bad habits. They also influence people to be their best. They cause other Christians to be better Christians. They also are able to influence non-Christians to consider their eternal destiny and God's provision to improve it. They bring to any gathering, a joy and peace that is contagious. They improve their environment.

The thermostat has a positive influence on its surroundings. If it does not, it is broken. When it is broken, it needs to be fixed. There are many Christians who have become broken thermostats. They may function fine as thermometers, but they are unable to change their environment. When they are not functioning as effective thermostats, they need Spiritual repair.

This repair is readily available. Through prayer, praise, confession, and obedience, the broken Christian can be made to function again. It is God's will for His children to function willingly and effectively in the world around them. Through His Holy Spirit, direction is available. The thermometer can be transformed into a thermostat. The thermometer needs the extra working parts of the thermostat to be



effective. Those parts are available to all Christians who will avail themselves of them.

Are you a thermometer or a thermostat?

MCC

## OUR INHERITANCE

I Peter 1:3-5, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time."

We have much for which to praise our Great God. Only God the Father, along with God the Son and God the Holy Spirit, is worthy of being called Blessed, which is a form of praise.

We praise Him for His abundant mercy. We deserve the wrath of God but He provides us with His mercy if we meet His conditions.

It is through this abundant mercy that He hath begotten us again unto a lively hope. This hope (assurance) of life eternal was lost through the adamic sin. But it was given anew through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. Hallelujah! The shed blood of Jesus Christ on the cross of Calvary bought our salvation. Yet, as the Apostle Paul reminds us in I Corinthians 15:17, "And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain: ye are yet in your sins."

The resurrection of Jesus Christ provides us with an inheritance. We understand this inheritance to be the gift of eternal life. This inheritance is incorruptible. One meaning of this is "not accessible to bribery." You can not buy your way into Heaven or get there through human works. Another meaning of this word is "not subject to decay or spoilage." An individual may have a large inheritance coming to them on earth that can be lost by poor management or an economic failure, but not so our inheritance in Heaven.

This inheritance is undefiled. "Defile," means "to make foul or dirty; pollute." Therefore our inheritance which is undefiled is pure in every sense of the word.

We have an inheritance which fadeth not away. No matter how large an earthly inheritance may be it can be squandered away through riotous spending. This is not true of our heavenly inheritance.

This inheritance is reserved in heaven for you (who are in the faith) and for me. We do not have to worry about the inheritance being lost or not being available to us.

This inheritance is for those who have been kept by the power of

God. There is no way that we can keep ourselves free from falling into sin. It takes the mercy of God and the power of the Holy Spirit to live a victorious life.

If all of this is true, and it is, because the Word of God says it is so. Are the Calvinists correct in their teaching of unconditional eternal security? Is it true that man has no part in his salvation?

Peter says we are kept BY the power of God THROUGH FAITH UNTO SALVATION. The Apostle Paul puts it this way in Colossians 1:21-23, "And you, that were sometimes alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unreprouvable in his sight: IF YE CONTINUE IN THE FAITH grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel,..."

If we continue in the faith, we are ready to be revealed in the last time. God will accept us as sons (and daughters) of himself adopted through his only begotten Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to receive our heavenly inheritance.

We have a heavenly inheritance reserved in the heavens but the blessings begin right now. As song writer A. H. Ackley expresses it:

I serve a risen Savior, He's in the world today;  
I know that He is living, whatever men may say;  
I see His hand of mercy, I hear his voice of cheer,  
And just the time I need Him, He's always near.  
He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today!  
He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.  
He lives, He lives, salvation to impart!  
You ask me how I know He lives? He lives within my heart."

Do you have the resurrected Savior within your heart today? If so, you have a heavenly inheritance waiting for you.

Brother James M. Hite  
816 E. Birch St.  
Palmyra, PA 17078-2704

## THOUGHTS ON THE VISUAL ARTS

In 1926, when the Dunkard Brethren came to be, there was no such thing as television. But there was theater and movies, and these things were preached against then, just as they are now. Psalms 101:3 says, "I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes." Many say they can control it, but who is controlling it when your back is turned? Today we are seeing an amazing thing. Many, raised in Christian homes that never had a television, are suddenly buying them. Many who were raised with a television, and know its dangers,

are getting rid of theirs and speaking out vehemently against them. With theater and movies there always was a certain amount of judgment involved before the tickets were bought. Yet, even with judgment considered, theater and movies were still soundly condemned by the body of Christ. Some say, "We will only watch good programming." There is still judgment involved, but fewer are speaking out against it, even though there is essentially no difference between theater and television.

Even if television had some value it would still be taking people away from the study of the Word, from talking to one another, and from spending meaningful time with one another. Take this message from one who grew up in front of the television and was hypnotized by it from age three. Television reminds me of the snake that hypnotizes the bird. The bird has the physical power to fly away at any time, but there is something about that snake that keeps the bird frozen in its tracks. It only takes a few minutes for the snake to fall upon the bird and devour it. The power that television has over people is shown by the average time one is watched per day per person — seven hours. Praise God that there are a few concerned Christians left who have seen the evil of television and have none in their home because they want something better for their children. They want to give honor and glory to God with their time and talent, and most of all, they do not want to be sitting stupefied in front of the "boob tube" when Jesus comes. Are we looking unto Jesus?

I have seen the cross of Jesus:

Gazed upon the crucified,

And my heart is won forever.

I am saved and satisfied.

Earth's joys no longer charm me,

And the world has lost its hold.

But my heart will sing with gladness

When the pearly gates unfold.

If we read Romans 14 carefully we will see that we are not to do anything that will weaken a brother or cause him to stumble. The example is used of the social drink. Alcohol does not tempt me, but if another brother would see me taking a social drink and conclude that it is all right to do likewise, and is made drunken by it, would not I bear some responsibility? I might, as some claim, be able to control the television, but can I say the same for my children? If they invited the neighbors in when I was gone would they view the screen with the same wariness that I would? What about the weaker brother?

When this writer was a teenager I was involved in a rock band. The loud music, the alcohol and the drugs were all a part of that scene. I do not, as a Christian, need to wallow in those things now.



When I was young television was also young, and there was very little on it that was offensive. Today the contents are far worse. It is possible to see the worst forms of pornography on a cable channel, or simply by popping a video tape into the VCR. Our eyes are sensitive instruments, and damage can be done before we have the power to resist. The images on the screen, whether we judge them to be good or bad, have the power to hypnotize and to brainwash us. We often hear alcohol referred to as "spirits", because of the evil spirits it connotes. Alcohol is not the only thing that creates evil spirits. Just like the bird and the snake, we may not have the power to resist. Compare Joseph and Samson. When confronted with sin, Joseph ran away. He knew what it could do to him. Samson, on the other hand, laughed and toyed with sin, and lost his life. Are you convinced that these things are not good for you?

Not but Christ can satisfy,  
None other name for me.  
There's love and life and lasting joy,  
Lord Jesus, found in thee.

Before we close we must say a word about the message of television. Do not believe a word of it. They are lying to you. Most headaches do not go away thirty seconds after taking some pill. Most of the world's problems are not solved in a thirty or sixty minute segment. Most politicians cannot keep their promises. Pierced ears and noses are not pretty and it is not the end of the world if you are ten pounds overweight. But worst of all you will not hear the gospel over the television, and as a Christian you will not be edified by what you see.

Brother Lynn H. Miller  
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Newmanstown, PA 17073

## BAPTISM

I will try to point out, without comment, what the Bible says concerning baptism.

John's baptism, Matthew 3:1-17, (verse 11) "I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire:" (verse 13-17) "Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him. But John forbad him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me? And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness. Then he suffered him. And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway

out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." Mark 1:1-8, (verse 4) "John did baptize in the wilderness, and preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins." Luke 3:1-22. Was the baptism of John from heaven or of men? Matthew 21:23-27, (verse 25-26) "The baptism of John, whence was it? from heaven, or of men? And they reasoned with themselves, saying, If we shall say, From heaven; he will say unto us, Why did ye not then believe him? But if we shall say, Of men; we fear the people; for all hold John as a prophet." Mark 11:27-33. Luke 20:1-8. Luke 7:24-30, (verses 29-30) "And all the people that heard him, and the publicans, justified God, being baptized with the baptism of John. But the Pharisees and lawyers rejected the counsel of God against themselves, being not baptized of him." Acts 10:34-38, (verse 37) "That word, I say, ye know, which was published throughout all Judaea, and began from Galilee, after the baptism which John preached;" Acts 13:23-26, (verse 24) "When John had first preached before his coming the baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel." Acts 18:24-28, (verses 25-26) "This man was instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in the spirit, he spake and taught diligently the things of the Lord, knowing only the baptism of John. And he began to speak boldly in the synagogue: whom when Aquila and Priscilla had heard, they took him unto them, and expounded unto him the way of God more perfectly." Acts 19:1-6, (verses 4-6) "Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied."

Why do you baptize John? John 1:19-34, (verse 33) "And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost."

The baptism of Jesus was recorded in Matthew 3:13-17, Mark 1:9-11 and Luke 3:21-22. We have already written of this in the record of John's baptisms.

Jesus baptized His disciples, John 3:22-36 and 4:1-3, (verses 22-23) After these things came Jesus and his disciples into the land of Judaea; and there he tarried with them, and baptized. And John also was baptizing in Aenon near to Salim, because there was much water there: and they came, and were baptized." John 4:1-3, "When therefore the Lord knew how the Pharisees had heard that Jesus



made and baptized more disciples than John, (Though Jesus himself baptized not, but his disciples,) He left Judaea, and departed again into Galilee."

Another kind of baptism, Matthew 20:20-23, (verses 22-23) "But Jesus answered and said, Ye know not what ye ask, Are ye able to drink of the cup that I shall drink of, and to be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with? They say unto him, We are able. And he saith unto them, Ye shall drink indeed of my cup, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with: but to sit on my right hand, and on my left, is not mine to give, but it shall be given to them for whom it is prepared of my Father." Mark 10:35-40. Luke 12:49-53, (verse 50) "But I have a baptism to be baptized with; and how am I straitened till it be accomplished!"

The commands of Jesus, Matthew 28:16-20 (verse 19) "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:" Mark 16:14-20, (verse 16) "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned."

Baptism in the early church, Acts 1:1-8, (verse 5) "For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence." Acts 2:37-42, (verse 38) "Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." Acts 8:12-17, (verse 12) "But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women." Acts 8:26-40, (verses 35-38) "Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus. And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized? And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest, And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him." Acts 9:17-19, (verse 18) "And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized." Acts 22:6-16, (verse 16) "And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord." Acts 10:44-48, (verses 47-48) "Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we? And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days." Acts 11:15-18. Acts 16:14-15, "And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple,



of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul. And when she was baptized, and her household, she besought us, saying, If ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide there. And she constrained us." Acts 16:25-34, (verse 33) "And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway." Acts 19:1-7, (verse 5) "When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus."

What is said in the epistles concerning baptism? Romans 6:1-6, (verses 3-4) "Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in the newness of life." I Corinthians 1:13-17, (verse 13) "Is Christ divided? was Paul crucified for you? or were ye baptized in the name of Paul?" I Corinthians 10:1-4, (verses 1-2) "Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea;" I Corinthians 12:12-13, (verse 13) "For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit." I Corinthians 15:29; Galatians 3:26-29, (verse 27) "For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ." Ephesians 4:3-6, (verse 5) "One Lord, one faith, one baptism." Colossians 2:9-14, (verse 12) "Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead." I Peter 3:18-22, (verse 21) "The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:"

Pray for us and for one another.

Brother William Carpenter

## THE HOLY CITY

### Part 1

Jerusalem, the capitol of Palestine, is a very interesting, Biblical city. The name identifies as a "city of peace."

History records its destruction many times. Probably no other city in Palestine has as much history as Jerusalem.

The earliest known record of the city, when first called Salem dates back to approximately the year 2000 BC King David took the city in

1049 BC. In 970 BC it was plundered by Shishara. In 884 BC the Philistines and Arabs overthrew the city. In 708 BC it was besieged by Nebuchadnezzar, who burned Jerusalem and Solomon's Temple.

At this time many Jews were taken captive to Babylon.

The city enjoyed peace and rebuilding until the year 70 AD when Titus captured the city and again destroyed the temple.

Siege after siege laid the city waste. It was last captured by Saladin in the year 1187 AD. It was annexed to the Roman Empire in 1577. With slight interruptions it has so remained.

Since as recently as 1949, when Israel became a state, there has been trouble there. This is a brief summary of the rise and fall of the "City of Peace!"

Within the boundaries of the city are four distinct hills or mountains as the Bible refers to them. They are named Mt. Zion, Aora, Moriah and Bozetha.

The city, when I visited it was walled, embracing approximately 210 acres. The old Biblical Jerusalem is within the wall. The more modern city lies outside the wall.

The greater percentage of its inhabitants are Jews. The next largest group are Mohammedans, who are called Moslems. Approximately, there were, in 1952, 28,000 professing Christianity.

Much more history could be written about Jerusalem, but the most important significance of the city is the fact that it was the center of much of Christ's teachings and activities.

A very important village, fifteen miles northeast of Hebron and five miles south of Jerusalem, is Bethlehem, the birth place of Jesus.

The city of Nazareth, north of Jerusalem, is where Jesus grew up. The Bible states that here is where He "Increased in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and man."

East of Jerusalem flows the Jordan River in which Jesus was baptized by John.

A short way east of Jerusalem is the city of Bethany. It lies on the slope of the Mount of Olives. The word "Bethany" means the Hourse of dates. The home of Mary, Martha and Lazarus was in Bethany. Jesus called at their home often. We read in John 11:5, "Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus."

The Mount of Olives lies east of Jerusalem approximately one mile. The Garden of Gethsemane is located on the slopes of the Mount of Olives. The history and record of the Mount of Olives are nearly inseparable from the history and record of Jerusalem because of their proximity to each other. There are many other references in God's Word concerning the Mount of Olives and Jerusalem.

I refer to one more. Jesus, in the presence of His disciples,



ascended up into heaven from the Mount of Olives. Read Acts 1:9-12.

To be continued  
Brother Paul R. Myers  
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Canton, OH 44618

## **SIXTY YEARS AGO**

April 15, 1935

### **PROSPERITY**

Grant Mahan

We find the words "prosper", "prosperity" and "prosperous" a number of times in the Bible. They are good words to think of, especially if we note what the Lord says about them, the conditions under which we can enjoy prosperity, be prosperous in what we try to do. If we would but allow the Bible directions there would be but little, if any, failure in our lives. There are certain things we must do if we are to attain to our goals as we go through life. There are numerous things we should like to gain. And there are rules which must be followed if we are to attain the goals.

Our country, most of the world, has been under depression, and is not yet out. Why did they get in? We are told sometimes in the Bible that certain men should not prosper, and we are told that certain others shall prosper. What makes the difference? Simply that some took God's way in life and the others did not. It is quite clear. Of the righteous man it is said, "Whatsoever he doeth shall prosper." Of the others it is said, "The ungodly are not so:...Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment...The way of the ungodly shall perish."

In Deuteronomy the Jews were told: "Keep therefore the words of this covenant, and do them, that ye may prosper in all that ye do." In Chronicles we have these words: "Then shalt thou prosper, if thou takest heed to fulfil the statutes and judgments which the Lord charged Moses with concerning Israel." The New Testament rule is not different. The Lord Himself said when He gave the Great Commission: Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world."

For the people of Israel the promises were mainly for this world; and yet there was a looking forward to the time of the coming of Christ. It took obedience to attain material success; will disobedience secure for us spiritual success? We know it will not; and yet we disobey. How many churches are there in which the "all things" are



literally taught and literally obeyed? And yet it is only by obedience to this command that we have the promise of Christ's presence with us. And we know, or we should know, that without His presence we cannot succeed.

The world, even the part of it which professes to follow the Lord Christ, know they are not obeying Christ. And yet they should know that failure to obey is one reason, the main one, why they have not prospered. The world got into trouble by disobeying the teaching of the Lord, and now it is seeking to get out without turning to Him. Will they succeed? And if they succeed will their success be worth much to them? A purely material civilization should not, would not, appeal to a Christian. The world has forgotten God in so many ways. One is almost afraid to think of the terrible things that may happen on the earth in the future, perhaps in the near future. Why do people fear? Isn't it because they know that the Lord is not with them, that they have disobeyed and turned from Him?

When men think of prosperity, it is of material prosperity and not soul prosperity that they think, mostly. Success, for them, is money, property, the riches of this world, which they know they must soon leave behind them. And the churches, all of them, so far as I know, are being more or less influenced by the same thought—success in financial affairs. There are not a great many men who live as Christ did who are rich in the things of this world. How many can you count? Many of those who have taken the name of Christ seek to become rich in the wealth that perishes; and which, if it remains in the family, often is a curse rather than a blessing. I think we have all known families in which that was the case. Knowing this so often happens, why do parents try to pile up wealth for their children? I think we are not wise, not really Christian, when this is greatly desired by any of us.

The Psalmist says of the Israelites when they desired things forbidden by the Lord, "He gave them their request; but sent leanness into their soul." What a price to pay for the things that perish! We want gain, and when we want it too much we forget that Godliness with contentment is great gain. There is no greater gain, none other so great, as Godliness. Why, then, do we strive so earnestly and faithfully for that which makes it impossible for us to live Godly in this present world? "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness; for they shall be filled." "He hath filled the hungry with good things; and the rich he hath sent empty away." For what did these hunger? Not material things, but spiritual. And in what were those rich who were sent empty away? Not in spiritual things. The Lord give us the hunger for righteousness; for then we shall be filled with the best things.

## **FOR SENIOR CHRISTIANS HELPING YOURSELF TO HAPPINESS**

Do you sometimes feel just a little sorry for yourself because of your circumstances as an older person. Possibly you are living by yourself now. Your wonderful partner has gone on to his or her eternal reward in heaven and sometimes you just "feel like traveling on" yourself. You have lost your zest for living and happiness seems to evade you.

Happiness is a true spiritual quality. It is like love, peace, wisdom and all of the other divine ideas in the Mind of God. To get happiness, you have to be willing to receive it. To enjoy it, you have to take it. You have to claim it as belonging to you and use it and act as a center for spreading happiness to others with your smile and cheerful words of encouragement. The way younger Christians see you act will be a pattern for them in future years.

You have to be willing to be happy, regardless of your present circumstances or conditions. You have to agree with the idea of happiness and say, "yes" to it, giving thanks for it as already belonging to you as a gift from the Heavenly Father and express it with your thoughts, words, feelings, actions and reactions.

We often foolishly ask for what is impossible and we pray for things that we think will make us happy rather than praying for happiness itself. If we are honest with ourselves, we will find that for one reason or another we are not always willing to be happy.

Have you decided happiness is no longer intended for you? I know you would not like to admit to this thought but many people seem to feel that God wants us to suffer and be sad. WRONG! You might even feel that you are in some way paying a price for some wrong things you have done in the past. You gain a long face and a wretched countenance.

Then there are those individuals who are actually happy being unhappy! These are the ones who enjoy feeling bad. They feel virtuous in trials. They get satisfaction out of their self-pity and like to brood over their troubles, making martyrs of themselves.

There is a way to gain happiness...lasting happiness...that nothing can take away from you. It is accepting happiness where you are right now and not constantly trying to pursue it outside your current situation or condition. Tell God,... "Lord, I am willing to be happy...help me to truly experience this trait in my life. Open my eyes to see the beauty of life again...the green grass, the little breeze, the tall trees, the sound of children playing." Live, work and sleep happiness. Be willing to be happy and God will do the rest.

Ask yourself, "Are you willing to be happy?" If you are not willing, God Himself will not make you happy in spite of yourself because He has given you the free will to choose for yourself. If you are willing, say so. Say it aloud,... "I am willing to be happy...I will declare the mercy of the Lord in my life and touch the lives of others for His sake and in His Name."

No matter what your situation, you may be surprised how quickly a flood of new joy can sweep over you and soon something will happen in your life that will relieve your distress.

Jesus came that our "Joy might be full." Happiness is a state of mind and it attracts other blessings. It is an intangible value that helps establish the spirit of the Lord in our life.

Of course you must remember that God created you so He could express His own joy and happiness through you. To feel and experience that joy, you, first, must be willing to be happy.

Claim happiness...affirm it, be willing to express it and share it.

Brother Len Wertz

## NEWS ITEMS

### WAYNESBORO, PENNSYLVANIA

The Waynesboro Congregation cordially extends an invitation to our Lovefeast services on May 7, 1995. Come and worship with us.

We are happy to welcome Matthew Priest, husband of Sis. Beverly Priest, who was received into the Church on former baptism.

Sister Janet Shaffer, Cor.

### PINE RIDGE, MISSISSIPPI

The Pine Ridge Congregation, Mississippi would like to thank all who have helped us with our building project since it began in November 1993.

We are very grateful for the support of the members of the Dallas Center Congregation who so generously gave of themselves in February to help finish the work.

During the four days they were here, they worked many long hours on the building. On Sunday they delivered messages both morning and afternoon.

A special thanks to the sisters who sent food for nearly all of the meals, and most were already prepared. It was a wonderful help.

God bless each of you.

Sister Ruth Ann Wells, Cor.



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## **ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR MAY 1995**

May 7 - Remember This Day - Exodus 13:1-22.

1. Why did God claim the firstborn of man and beast?
2. What do we, today, need to give the first of to the Lord?

May 14 - MOTHER'S DAY - Proverbs 31:10-31.

1. What hours does the virtuous woman labor?
2. Who does the virtuous woman help beyond her household?

May 21 - Crossing The Red Sea - Exodus 14:1-31.

1. Salvation was then, and still is, of whom?
2. What was God's purpose in drowning the Egyptians?

May 28 - Song of Deliverance - Exodus 15:1-27.

1. Name some reasons why God may have made the Israelites first experience with wilderness water a bitter one.
2. List the conditions required for God's people to be disease free.

## **YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR MAY 1995**

May 7 - Profanity - Ex. 20:7, Matt. 5:33-37, James 3:9-12, 5:12.

1. What does it mean to take the name of the Lord God in vain?
2. In God's design, what is the purpose of our mouth and tongue?

May 14 - MOTHER'S DAY - I Samuel 1:9-28.

1. What was Hannah's "affliction", as she called it?
2. How should we be "lent" to the Lord today?

May 21 - Patience - Ecc. 7:8-10, Luke 21:19, Heb. 10:35-39, James 1:2-4, James 5:7-11

1. Explain the connection between faith and patience.
2. How long must our patience last?

May 28 - Humility - Micah 6:8, Luke 14:7-11, Rom 12:3, James 4:8-10, I Peter 5:3-9.

1. If we humble ourselves, what has God promised to do for us?
2. How is humility related to submission?

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# BIBLE MONITOR

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NO. 9

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## WHAT JESUS WANTS

What does Jesus want of me?  
O, how can I repay  
All that He has done for me,  
When skies are bright or gray?

Could it be that He may want  
My thanks and also praise?  
For He shed His precious blood  
That I might live always.

When I draw away from Him  
And stop looking up above,  
Still, He keeps on blessing me  
Showing His wondrous love.

Alas, in meekness, I now pray  
For forgiveness once more,  
And promise to live closer,  
Striving for that other shore.

-Irene Stout

## GATHERED TO BE SCATTERED

We all tend to collect. Some people amass great collections of trivial items. While some collect antique automobiles, others will collect old labels or small insignificant items, no longer made or used. It is amazing what some people decide to accumulate. Some people's accumulations are just accumulations. Others will organize and label their collections so others can enjoy them.

People who pay a high price in time, effort and money to amass their collections, often find that others are not as interested as they are. A collector's children may not be interested enough in their parents' collection to preserve it after their demise. If a collection is not worth a great deal of ready money or of immediate use, it may be dismantled or destroyed. Although a lot of effort went into gathering these collections, eventually most will be scattered.

A farmer gathers seed so he can plant his crop. The parable of the sower tells of the man broadcasting his seed upon various types of ground. His first concern was to gather good seed that would germinate and produce an abundant harvest. His next concern was to distribute it the best he could. Even with diligent care, some of the seed was wasted on unproductive ground. The good seed that did fall on good ground produced crops that multiplied the original seed. He never would have reaped such an abundant crop if he had just gathered his seed and kept it. The harvest came after he had scattered the seed, although some did fall on the wayside, the hard ground and the weed patch.

The work of the Church, like the sower's, is to share the Gospel seed. The Word of God awaits being scattered. The Church possesses the truth, but that truth will do others no good if it is not

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shared. The Church can not withdraw itself totally from the affairs of men, but must influence men. It is not through social programs or political action that men will be changed. It is through the saving Gospel. Men make changes after they have been changed. These programs only affect their social, political, and financial situations. A man's true worth depends on his relationship with God. That relationship must be according to God's will. God's will can only be known when the Gospel is broadcast to all manner of mankind throughout the world.

The spreading of the Gospel is accomplished by Christians living the Gospel before others. Christian living is more effective than all the resolutions and minutes passed by Church bodies. People relate more to other people than they do to the printed, or even the spoken, word.

Congregations gather together over a period of time. People come together through conversion, identification and moving. It is good when a congregation can attain a size that will permit the congregation to be fully functional. The fellowship and the teaching of a strong body of believers is enjoyable. All enjoy the benefits of a large group of sharing Brethren and Sisters. The Church becomes not only the Spiritual home but also the social home of the members, so they have little need of the surrounding world.

Although this gathering is enjoyable, it can become a snare. Christians are gathered to be scattered. Congregations need enough members to be active, working groups. That ideal number varies from congregation to congregation, depending on the makeup of each congregation. When a congregation grows beyond that ideal number there is less opportunity for the members to enjoy the fellowship that they need. There will develop a gap between the leaders and the followers. When this happens, the Church becomes more institutionalized and less personalized.

Congregations are gathered to be scattered. Their scattering should not be through division or distrust. Scattering is to be a method of spreading the Gospel. By dividing congregations and sending members out to weaker congregations or to the mission field, the Gospel can be spread to other areas and other people. Supercongregations of hundreds and thousands of members lose their identification with each other and lose sight of their goals. It is better to have a number of smaller congregations than one huge, impersonal congregation. It is still a good strategy to divide and conquer.

Is your congregation gathering? Is it gathering so it can be scattered in service? Or is it being gathered to become an institution that has lost its purpose?

Gathering is necessary. Scattering is needed, too!

## AS MANY AS RECEIVED HIM

John 1:12-13, "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God."

The debate has continued through the years to our present time. Does man, with an action of his will, receive Jesus Christ or does God bestow salvation on mankind according to predestined election?

Our study scripture says, "But as many as received him." This seems to imply that there was a possibility to reject the Lord Jesus Christ. We believe there comes a time in every individual's life when the Holy Spirit speaks to their heart of the need of a Savior. At this point in time, with their free will, they must accept or reject the calling of God.

"To them gave he power to become the sons of God." It is true that God gives us the power to become sons (or daughters) of God. This does not negate the scriptural teaching of free will.

"Even to them that believe on his name." Contrary to modern popular thought, you can not come to the Lord Jesus Christ through Mohammed, Buddha or some other false messiah. We must remember that those who believe on His name are those who receive Him. In other words, those who believe whom Jesus Christ really is. That He is the virgin born Son of God. That He is God the Son, the second person of the Trinity. That He is our resurrected Lord.

"Which were born." All individuals had a natural birth. Those who are sons of God have a supernatural birth. It has been well said, "Only born once, die twice; born twice, only die once." But like most sayings of men this one has a flaw. You can die spiritually after the second birth.

"Not of blood." Your ethnic origin has nothing to do with your salvation. The various blood types are found in all races of mankind. No matter the color of your skin or the language you speak as your mother tongue, you share one thing in common with all mankind, a sinful nature. All of mankind suffers under the curse of adamic sin. You may have "royal blood" flowing through your veins or you may be able to trace your ancestry back to an important elected government official. In the eyes of God you are no more important than the lowest pauper.

"nor of the will of the flesh." There is no inner spark that we can fan to more brightness. Nor do we grow into salvation by doing good works. Modern man has changed the words of the hymn writers who saw themselves as "a worm" and "a wretch like me," but the Bible still teaches that there is no good to be found in sinful flesh.

"Nor of the will of man." Positive thinking has never led anyone to the truth of salvation. We struggle with our human will as long as we



live. We like the way our Brethren Hymnal records the last verse of Robert Robinson's hymn, "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing."

"O to grace how great a debtor  
Daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let thy goodness like a fetter,  
Bind my wand'ring heart to thee:  
Prone to wander, Lord I feel it,  
Prone to leave the God I love;  
Here's my heart, O take and seal it;  
Seal it for thy courts above."

Another song book changes the words, "Prone to wander, Lord I feel it, Prone to leave the God I love;" to "Prone to love Thee, Lord I feel it, Prone to serve the God I love;" We believe our Brethren rendition is more true to life and more truthfully realistic.

"But of God." Our salvation is of God. God designed it, God desired it, God decreed it and God delivered it.

As we read in II Corinthians 5:15-18, "And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again. Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we him no more. Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;"

Praise God we are among the "as many as received him." We hope that you are too.

Brother James M. Hite  
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## **ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE**

### **Discrediting the Bible by Science**

The basic reason for the modern widespread rebellion against traditional values in every realm of life, social, political, moral, educational, and religious, is the widespread impression that Biblical principles have been outdated by the discoveries of modern science. Our constitution and our American culture in general were permeated in their origins with a strong national faith in God and His Word. The gradual and now rapid undermining of confidence in the Word of God is a result of the rise of uniformitarianism and evolutionism in the nineteenth century. This was followed by a revolt against the social and political institutions erected on faith in God. It is no accident that religious liberals are almost always moral and political liberals and vice versa.



However, the fact is that true science has always confirmed the Bible. It is not science but scientism (philosophy) that has attacked the Bible.

Science means knowledge and it therefore includes only that which we actually know, by direct observation and experience. It is the organized body of factual knowledge and relationships. The scientific method involves experimental reproducibility and verification. Thus, science, in its proper sense, can deal only with the processes of the world as it now exists. It can tell us nothing for certain about prehistoric events and processes, nor can it predict future events and processes with accuracy.

Many scientists have assumed that present processes are eternal processes, therefore, they can explain everything that ever has been or ever will be in terms of what exists or happens now. This is the philosophy of "uniformitarianism" and it is the ruling philosophy in the modern scientific establishment. It leads to evolutionism that seeks to explain the origin and development of all things in terms of present rational processes.

This assumption itself violates the two fundamental laws of science, the First and Second Laws of Thermodynamics. These laws deal with the all-embracing entity known as "energy," which includes all the phenomena of the physical universe. All processes are basically interchanges of energy. Even matter itself is fundamentally a type of energy, which can, under the right circumstances, be converted into other forms. The First Law states that nothing is now being created or destroyed and the Second Law states that in all real processes there is a net loss of energy available for future work. Thus all processes are conservative and disintegrative, not creative or integrative.

The Bible, instead of being discredited by science, has actually anticipated modern-day science. These laws were stated in the creation and the finished work involved in it. God created everything and He is not now creating anything but neither is He allowing anything to be annihilated.

Everything gets old, wears out, runs down, and ultimately dies. In all processes, some energy becomes degraded. The Bible calls this the law of bondage of corruption, under which the "whole creating is groaning." It is also called the curse and God invoked it when man first brought sin into God's originally perfect creation.

The First Law states that, since all present processes are conservative, not creative, the beginning of all things required by the Second Law must have been accomplished by means of creative processes that are not now in existence. Therefore they are inaccessible to science and anything we are ever to learn about them must come by the revelation of the Creator Himself.

If that sounds a bit scientific to you, it might be because I have a degree in Science and I feel quite comfortable sharing it in this way!

Let us conclude that the framework of science is confirmed by the Bible and it leads us irrefutably to the first words ever written and the most profoundly important truth ever comprehended...IN THE BEGINNING, GOD CREATED THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH...To God be the glory!

Brother Len Wertz

## THE HOLY CITY Part 2

No writing about Jerusalem and environs would be complete without referring to the mighty wonder of Jesus, to His life, death and resurrection.

He was God's only Son. His main purpose in being sent to earth was to bring God's plan of salvation.

He was the greatest teacher who ever graced the earth. He taught by precept and example. He used the natural things of life to teach the Spiritual.

His ministry consisted of preaching, teaching, healing, raising the dead, and performing many, many miracles, mostly in or near Jerusalem.

His first miracle was at the feast in Cana. He turned water into the best wine served at the feast.

He healed the sick. He raised the dead. He fed multitudes of four and five thousand men besides women and children. More food was gathered up after the feeding than He had to start with at the beginning.

Near Jerusalem, He healed the impotent man. John 5:1-9. I give this one illustration. It being only one of many similar healings Jesus did.

Jesus entered the Temple in Jerusalem and there found men making merchandise, doing business, in an institution dedicated to worship only. I have to wonder how "men of the cloth", preachers, priests, and so forth, who permit and encourage gambling, raffles, bake sales, and so forth, in their houses of worship will fare on the day of judgment.

Jesus cleansed the temple by driving out the evil doers. This, along with His other works and teachings irritated many to the point they sought to do away with Him.

He had to stand trial before Caiaphas. Because they had no true charge against Jesus they sought false witness. After He was tried in several courts, He falsely was accused of blasphemy.

The sentence they pronounced on Him was death.

Pilate, who had to make disposition of this case, left the decision,

to the people, as to whom he should release, Barabbas or Jesus. They preferred to release Barabbas and to crucify Jesus.

He was put through all kinds of shame and embarrassment, then was led away to be crucified.

His trials, His condemnation, His sentence to be crucified were all fulfillment of prophecy in God's Word, and all took place in Jerusalem.

His crucifixion took place nigh (near) the city - namely, Jerusalem. John 19:20.

This location was called in Hebrew, "Golgotha," "the place of a skull".

Joseph of Arimathaea donated his own private tomb for Jesus' burial. It was from this tomb that Jesus arose. He became the first fruits of them that slept. I Corinthians 15:20.

Much, much more could be written about the Holy City.

God granted me the blessing of having the experience of preaching several times in Jerusalem.

Visiting the Holy City inspires one to make fully ready to inhabit the New Jerusalem which John the Revelator saw coming down from God out of Heaven. John 21:2.

Brother Paul R. Myers  
5005 Higbee Ave., NW  
Canton, OH 44718

### **"YE ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD"**

**Matthew 5:14**

In New Testament times, lamps were very common. They could be carried from room to room, or set on a stand. They burned olive oil that could be grown in the area. We all know so well the Bible parable that says that we do not put a lamp under a bushel. It was a common practice of the day to put an oil lamp on top of a bushel not under it. Today a common hand light for use, when outside in the dark, is a flashlight.

I would like to make an analogy with a flashlight. First we have the outside of the flashlight, or the case. I would like to liken this to our human body. The light bulb is like our soul, which, when we have Jesus in our heart, shines before men. Now the flashlight is not any good unless it has power. Jesus has given us the power, His Holy Spirit. We may tap into this "battery" with the wires of prayer and God's Word. The clear piece of plastic or glass is similar to our conscience, which must be kept clean that it may be seen through. The flashlight that I just described to you is a flashlight, but if you tried it outside, it would not work very well. Why not? Because it would only make a very small light in the darkness. It still needs the mirror. The mirror is comparable to our works. They do not make up the flashlight, but they are a distinct part of it. They help the flashlight



make a greater impact upon the darkness. Then the shining flashlight can be put into God's hand to shine into the darkness as a tool for the advancement of His kingdom.

Imagine now that you take this flashlight outside at dusk. The flashlight is shining bright and clear. Soon the shadows deepen, and the air becomes chilly. The light is standing out a little more because of the more apparent darkness. Would we now expect the flashlight to get slowly dimmer because the night is getting darker? Does a flashlight dim in a dark night because it feels out of place, or has to stand alone? Does the night getting darker permit the flashlight to get darker? No. The darker the night, the greater need for a consistently bright light.

As the night gets darker in this present world, may we all strive to consistently shine brighter for Christ.

Brother William Johnson  
1539 Montclair Drive  
Modesto, CA 95350

## SIXTY YEARS AGO

May 1, 1935

### THE REWARD AND FRUIT OF DOING

J. F. Britton

Jesus said, "If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them." (Jno. 13:17.) Therefore, knowledge and doing are the quintessence and dynamics of the whole plan of salvation and can logically be recognized as the golden text of the New Testament. Because in this text centers and clusters the gist and contents of Jesus' teachings.

The Apostle Paul placed a high rating on knowledge when he urged saying, "Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is." (Eph. 5:17.) And so it is a well known fact that all satisfactory and acceptable services must be rendered by intelligence.

The 13th chapter of John discloses an inspiring and humiliating scene of the closing service of Christ. (In Luke 22:27) Jesus said, "I am among you as he that serveth." Again in Matt. 20:28 we read, "Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give His life a ransom for many." Hence it is plain and indisputable that Jesus came to this world on a mission of service and there cannot be any service without "doing." Jesus verified that fact when He said, "He that sent Me is with Me: the Father hath not left Me alone; for I do always those things that please Him. As He spake these words, many believed on Him. Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on Him, if ye continue in My word, then are ye My disciples indeed." (Jno. 8:29-31.)

To "continue in My word" - to keep "doing" those things that "His

word" teaches us to do. Then, and then only are we His disciples indeed. Jesus verifies this statement in John 13:8 when Peter saith unto Him, "Thou shalt never wash my feet. Jesus answered him, if I wash thee not thou hast no part with Me."

Jesus gave Peter to understand that his refusal will disqualify him from exercising and participating with Him in His divine appointed program and ordained scheme of salvation; for all of them, that will comply with His requisites. Therefore when Peter realized that his relationship with Jesus hinged on his obedience to Jesus' demands, he yielded. Peter did not persist in trying to justify himself with the idea that he had a right to his own opinion.

Thus we see that it is through spontaneous and willing obedience that we merit and secure the Reward and Fruition of Doing.

"So after He had washed their feet, and had taken His garments, and was set down again, He said unto them, know ye what I have done to you? Ye call Me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Master have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you. Verily, verily, I say unto you, the servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him." (Jno. 13:12-16.)

A wonderful exposition, clothed in humility and divine authority on Christian service.

No wonder that Jesus said, "If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them." For it is plain and logical that our future joys and happiness depends altogether upon our observing and "doing" the Lord's will. Jesus said, "Not everyone that saith unto Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of My Father which is in heaven." (Matt. 7:21.)

Again we read, "Blessed are they that do His commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city." (Rev. 22:14.) And again we read, "Who so looked into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed." (James 1:25.)

Many other scriptures could be quoted that attest and verifies the fact that obedience is the highest and strongest evidence of our faith and love for Christ.

"Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice and to harken than the fat of rams." (Samuel 15:22.)

Therefore Jesus said, "If a man love Me, He will keep My words: and My Father will love him, and we will come unto Him, and make our abode with him." (Jno. 14:23.) This text assures us of the divine fellowship whereby we enjoy the reward and fruition of Christian service.

Hence Jesus says, "Behold, I come quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give every man according as his work shall be. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last. Blessed are they that do His commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gate into the city." (Rev. 22:12-14.)

O God breathe upon us, and quicken us by Thy spiritual power and grace; that will enable us to love more, and do more of Thy Holy will; that we may be worthy to enter into the home of the redeemed. Let us sing:

Jesus, my all, to heaven is gone,  
He whom I fix my hopes upon;  
His trick I see, and I'll pursue  
The narrow way till Him I view.

The way the holy prophets went,  
The way that leads from banishment;  
The King's highway of holiness,  
I'll go, for all His paths are peace.

### JACOB WORSHIPPED

Hebrews 11:21, "By faith Jacob, when he was a dying, blessed both the sons of Joseph; and worshipped, leaning upon the top of his staff."

We read in Genesis 32 about Jacob wrestling with the angel and how he came face to face with the Lord God. This experience changed him forever. He received a new name and a permanent limp. He was never the same again. His name means "supplanter," or one who takes the place of another. When Jacob received the touch of God, his supplanting was brought to an end. He, like the Apostle Paul, had to be stopped in his tracks. He had taken the blessing and the birthright that belonged to his older brother. All the talents and strength that he possessed were affected by this touch of God.

So the Hebrews writer tells of the faith of Jacob. His weakness, a blow dealt him by the Lord Himself, is what brought forth his faith. Most of us can point back to a time in our lives when we met the Lord. The strengths and talents that once were used for evil are now used for God's glory. When asked why he limped, Jacob no doubt told of his experience with the Lord. We are told to be ready to tell every one of the hope that lies within us. When we meet God, whether or not we yield to His tender embrace, we never are the same again.

Brother Lynn H. Miller  
RD 2 Box 561  
Newmanstown, PA 17073



## **FOR SENIOR CHRISTIANS ON YOUR OWN...BUT NOT ALONE**

When you were a young person you could hardly wait to be on your own. You instinctively felt great power and possibilities within yourself...with high hopes and dreams. Yet, later in life, the thought of being on your own, alone, may be very unhappy. A loss of someone on whom you have come to depend leaves you feeling vulnerable and unsure.

Being alone does not mean being deserted. It does not mean that you are without help. It means that your dependence is again on the One who can also give you that special sense of security and well-being. You still have God's power within you and you still have great possibilities for a life filled with productive contributions to your family and to the church. You are strengthened and empowered by the living Spirit within you.

With the loss of a husband or a wife, a person may cry out, "How can I go on? How can I cope with life?" You may not be able to see how life can be bearable without the love, support and companionship of that dear one. It is not easy to face the changes that bereavement brings. Where there has been a sharing of daily life, now you are on your own. You are on your own...but not alone.

The need for strength, for courage, for comfort is met by the loving presence of Christ in your midst. "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." "Lo, I am with you always."

The Spirit of the loving Christ within you supports you, brings you peace, renews your courage, giving you the will to carry on.

**YOU CAN COPE.** You can meet life in a new spirit when you rely on Christ's Spirit within you to heal the hurts of the heart and to bring you into newness of joy. You are on your own but you are not alone!

No one tells the baby struggling to stand, trying to manage the first step, that he is on his own. He knows it. It is his first move toward independence. His parents, as much as they love him, as much as they want to help him, cannot do for him what he must do for himself. There can be encouragement, praise, rejoicing...but he must learn to stand on his own...he must take the first step on his own.

Sometimes you may feel like an infant struggling to get on your feet. That is all right. It is a normal feeling and it helps to create a greater dependence on God. You can accept that feeling and you can come to terms with the experience. You can come from darkness into light and God will bless you beyond words. You can know you are on your own but you are not alone!

You want to be strong, to be able to stand on your own two feet, to be able to cope with life under any circumstance and you want to be free from fear and dependency. None of you want to be alone. You

are not alone! God's spirit calls you to come up higher in your thoughts about yourself. He gives you the strength, the courage, the will, the faith to refuse to be downed by the circumstances of life. He helps you to stand strong.

Claim the power of God through His Holy Spirit. He is wisdom, guidance and direction. He reveals truth and unifies you with other people around you. He enriches and satisfies. He is the link between you and others in the Christian family. He is Christ's very presence and He is at One with God. He will give you purpose for going on...for not feeling alone...even though you are on your own.

Brother Len Wertz

## **I LOVE MY LORD**

Emily R. Moore

I love my Lord, Who to earth came,  
'Twas not for wealth or earthly fame;  
But 'twas His love for you and me,  
What boundless love, so full, so free!

I love my Lord, Who died for me  
That thru His death I might be free;  
On Calvary's cruel cross of shame  
He ransomed me, oh praise His name!

I love my Lord, for He arose!  
He conquered death and all His foes;  
E'en now He sits upon His throne,  
He's interceding for His own.

I love my Lord, for some glad day,  
He'll take me from this earth away,  
Then with His saints for aye I'll sing -  
"Oh glory, glory to my King!"

My Lord, my King, I love Thee today,  
I love Thee now, I'll love Thee for aye;  
I'll follow Thee o'er land and sea,  
My life shall e'er belong to Thee.

Selected by Brother Galen Litfin

## **NEWS ITEMS**

### **1995 GENERAL CONFERENCE**

The Lord willing, the Fourth District of the Brotherhood plans to host General Conference, June 10 through 14, 1995, at Modesto, California.

Conference attendees arriving prior to Saturday afternoon (June 10) should go to the Pleasant Home Church for registration and lodging information.

The Pleasant Home Church is located at 3960 Sharon Avenue, Modesto, California. Directions: Attendees arriving on Highway 99 north or south take the Briggsmore exit. Follow Briggsmore east (approximately 6 miles) to Claus. Turn left (north) on Claus. Church is approximately one half mile on the left at the corner of Claus and Sharon.

Attendees arriving on State 132 from San Francisco, take Carpenter Road north to Briggsmore, and follow above directions.

Attendees arriving after 2:00 P.M. on June 10 should go to the Conference facility:  
Ceres Seventh-Day Adventist Church  
1633 N. Central Avenue  
Ceres, CA 95307

Directions: Attendees arriving on Highway 99 north or south take the Hatch Road exit. Go east on Hatch approximately one mile to Central. Go right on Central. Facilities on the right.

We trust your stay in California will be enjoyable and uplifting.

On behalf of the Committee of Arrangements.

Brother Dave Reece

### **ENGLEWOOD, OHIO**

Special Lovefeast plans for June 3 and 4 are in the making, if it is the Lord's will. The Communion Service will include a new found friend, Godfrey Kiisa from Nairobi, Kenya, Africa who desires to become acquainted with our customs and understanding of God's Word. The plans also include a baptismal service.

We are rejoicing and praising our Saviour for the Barnett family who cast their lot with us by the right hand of fellowship. They are Father, Ray; Mother, Sandra, and daughter, Thelma; also daughter, Tammie by baptism. There are also two small sons.

Sister Ruth Speicher, Cor.

### **BRETHREN BIBLE CONFERENCE**

Due to the response after this year's Brethren Bible Conference, the dates for 1996 have been changed to March 15, 16 and 17. Until further notice they will remain the 3rd weekend in March.

Brother Ron Peters



### MINISTERIAL LIST CHANGE

The new address of Elder Galen Litfin is: 1408 East 7th St., Newberg, OR 97132. His new telephone number is: 503-538-2876.

### THANK YOU

Thanks for making our 40th Anniversary a memorable one with cards and letters. We were surprised by a drop-in at our home. God richly bless you. Pray for souls who do not have brothers and sisters in Christ. Do we appreciate the wonderful Christian heritage we have had?

God bless you all  
Brother Verling and Sister Fern Wolfe

### THANK YOU

I want to thank the brethren and sisters who sent cards for my 75th birthday. I received 164 cards from every congregation in the Brotherhood. May God richly bless each one of you.

In Christian love  
Sister Valeria Sweitzer



The happiness of your life  
depends upon the character of your thoughts.



Next to salvation, a good wife and mother  
is God's sweetest smile from heaven.



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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXXIII

MAY 15, 1995

NO. 10

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## IF I MUST DIE

If I must die, O, let me die  
With hope in Jesus' blood—  
The blood that saves from sin and guilt,  
And reconciles to God.

If I must die, O, let me die  
In peace with all mankind,  
And change these fleeting joys below  
For pleasures more refin'd.

If I must die - and die I must—  
Let some kind seraph come,  
And bear me on his friendly wing  
To my celestial home.

Of Canaan's land, from Pisgah's top,  
May I but have a view,  
Though Jordan should o'erflow its banks,  
I'll boldly venture through.  
-Beddome



## THE UNEXPECTED

This has been a year of unusual weather. In various parts of the United States, the weather has been different from what had been expected. In the wetter, greener parts of the country, it has been warm and dry. In the dryer, warmer parts of the country it has been wet and cool. Weather has always been a subject for discussion. All the discussion that we invest in it, has never changed it a bit. We continue to have unusual weather from time to time.

There are other unusual events that happen from time to time. These things happen just when we least expect them. Natural disasters come, either with or without warning, and wreak havoc over a large area. Not only houses, barns and other buildings are destroyed, but often lives are lost. Tornadoes, hurricanes, earthquakes, ocean waves and other natural disasters disrupt the lives of people. Fires, explosions and violence also disturb people's lives. Few places escape the effects of these various forces. While one area may suffer from certain disasters, other areas also have their own type of disaster. There seems to be no way of escaping these forces.

If we move from one area to another we are likely to move from one disaster to another. The first extensive battle of the American Civil War was fought at Bull Run in Northern Virginia. That battle was fought over land belonging to Mr. McLean. After that battle, he decided to move farther south in Virginia to escape the effects of the war's violence. The last battle of the Civil War was fought over his land near Appomattox Court House. In fact, General Robert E. Lee surrendered to General Ulysses S. Grant in the parlor of Mr.

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## THE BIBLE MONITOR

MAY 15, 1995

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McLean's home. He could not move away from the unexpected.

A few weeks ago, a powerful bomb exploded outside the Federal Office Building in Oklahoma City. It caused terrible destruction. There were over one hundred and sixty lives lost in that explosion. It was a great shock to all who even just heard about it. It was totally unexpected. It was unexpected since it occurred in the United States. Excepting the bombing of the World Trade Center in New York City a few years ago, there has never been anything quite like this in this country. To happen in the interior of the country was an even greater shock. There might have been some expectation of this happening in a major city, but Oklahoma City would not seem a likely target. To learn that it, apparently, was carried out by American citizens, was an even greater shock. These men apparently had a gripe against the government that caused them to destroy not only government property but the lives of many people who were in the building innocently doing their business.

Many commentaries could be written about the connection of these types of events with the end times of this world. It appears that the hedge about the United States has slipped away as the people of this land have given themselves over to every kind of ungodly behavior. It speaks volumes about the moral and Spiritual decline of the United States over the past few decades.

None of the people involved in that explosion expected when they got up that morning that they would go through such a dramatic change in their lives that day. Those who were killed did not expect to die that day. We do not know the Spiritual condition of any of the people involved. We do not know what fate they met.

The question that would be more important to us is what would our fate have been, if we had been involved in this disaster. All of us meet with unexpected events as we go through life. We sometimes encounter those terrible things that always happen to "someone else." How are we prepared for those events? Whether it be unexpected disasters, bad weather, wars, or sickness, are we prepared for these things?

We may think we are well able to handle anything that comes along. Often in the midst of a testing time, we find we are not as well prepared as we thought. It may be far easier, as a Christian, to face death than to face a continuing problem, day after day.

Are you prepared for an unexpected event? Are you prepared to face death at an unknown time or place? Are you prepared to face an ongoing problem that requires a continual replenishing of faith and fortitude? Are you a part of God's family so you can have the strength and wisdom to face whatever events that come against you?

MCC



## MISSION AFRICA 1995

Reaching the unreached is a task that must be done. Nineteen ninety-five gave birth to a historic missionary journey to Africa by the arrival of Paul and Mary Stump. The hearts of men and women were moved by their messages of love to a dying world.

"Why are you wasting the whole day here doing nothing? "No one hired us", they answered. "Well, then, you also go and work in the vineyard", he told them." Matthew 20:6-7. There is an end time opera in which all Christians all over the globe are actors and actresses. Some are in the just group. They are busy labouring and toiling for our Master, Jesus Christ. They are always seeking for every means of extending His kingdom. These are those that make things happen, like the Stumps. Now you can pray for missionary activities in Kenya with an accurate and up-to-date information from the pioneers. Whomsoever you are and whatever talent you possess, whatever experience you have gone through in life, there is a portion for you in missions.

Thanks be to the Dunkard Brethren for sending Paul and Mary Stump over. They made God's business their business and considered souls more important than their lives. They left footprints behind in the African sand of time and we look forward to their next visit. Ambassadors so humble, so dedicated, so full of Godly love, gave their all as they traveled across this nation of Kenya on the rough roads, like the road that led the Lord to Golgotha. What is your level of commitment to this God you are following? Let us be very sober about our own life. God is looking for people who will stand in the gap, who will pull down principalities and strongholds, who will cry for nations where the devil is presently having a field day. God is looking for people who will love not their lives, even unto death. Those who will literally hold their lives in their hands, as it were. Leaving family, business and friends behind and not knowing what will befall them.

Some people tried to get rid of Jesus. Some tried to ignore Him. Others were unwilling to face the force of His claims upon them. It is the same today. You cannot sit on the fence. "He who is not with me is against me." Luke 11:23. God bless the Stumps.

Theresa Okello

## PERILOUS TIMES

"This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come." II Timothy 3:1.

Matthew 24:4-8, Jesus' own words, "Take heed that no man



deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many. And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilence, and earthquakes, in divers places. All these are the beginning of sorrows."

We, for certain, are living in a generation of crime and perilous times. Our daily newspaper, in one issue, carried twenty-three items of violence and crime. There were three bombings, six murders, abortion, and homosexuality reports totaling five. The remaining nine consisted of hijacking, the O. J. Simpson trial, shop lifting, auto theft, passing bad checks, riots and hold-ups. There was an account of a jail having forty more prisoners than allowed. They were to release forty prisoners, who faced lesser charges.

When our nation's jails are filled to overcapacity, can we truthfully say we are a Christian nation? I realize we are better off than other nations, but we could stand improvement.

Jesus and the prophets foretold what would come to pass.

Matthew 10:21, Jesus' own words, "And the brother shall deliver up the brother to death, and the father the child: and the children shall rise up against their parents, and cause them to be put to death." Nearly every newspaper carries items that are evidence of the fulfilling of one or more of the above prophecies.

Nations shall rise against nations. Matthew 24:7a. That prophecy of Jesus has come to pass. Historians state that for a very short time near the time when Christ was born there was peace on earth and good will toward man.

In Matthew 24:7 we see that pestilence will be on this earth. Pestilence is a deadly epidemic, disease or plague. Cancer is one of those deadly diseases and is a major cause of death in our day.

Our nation is plagued with false prophets. Jesus states in Matthew 15:9, "But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men."

Mark 13:22, Jesus states, "For false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall shew signs and wonders, to seduce, if it were possible, even the elect." The Apostle Paul, who met up with false teachers, gives us this advice, as recorded in II Timothy 2:15, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." Jesus, the Saviour, gave many such warnings. For it is His will that none be lost.

Famines, deceivers, pestilence, fornication and adultery, all, are

abounding in our day.

I want to refer to Jesus' prophecy that there shall be earthquakes in divers places. We are made to think, when we read of the devastation, caused by earthquakes in our day, of the fulfillment of the scriptures. This should prove to the skeptic that every prophecy will come to fulfillment.

As we see scripture being fulfilled may we strive to be obedient to God's Word. Then we shall experience what Christ promised as recorded in Matthew 24:13, "But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved."

Brother Paul R. Myers  
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### **WHO ARE THE DUNKARD BRETHREN?**

In 311 A.D., the Roman Emperor Constantine publicly professed tolerance of the Christian faith and a few years later Christianity became the official religion of the government, the army and the whole empire. Under order from the emperor, this state-church system tried to enforce it's doctrine and compromises on the worldwide or "catholic" church. These man-made officials declared that the non-resistant, non-conformist churches which were still faithful to the apostolic Gospel and disciplines were from then on to be called heretics and killed.

Great human reasoners arose, who argued that it is right for Christians to go to war and fight, right to baptize infants, right to torture and kill "heretics" and right to obey the Pope of Rome. During these dark ages when the Catholic Church degenerated into superstition, murder and idolatry, there were a few minority churches called by various names who remained faithful to the Scriptures and maintained believer's baptism, the new birth experience, discipleship and disciplined churches, non-resistance and non-conformity. As they were hunted and killed in one area, they sprang up in other areas; they found their Gospel in the Word of God and considered the Roman and Greek churches to have fallen into apostasy.

The light brightens...

In the midst of all this darkness, the faithful light began shining brighter around 1500. All over Europe, there was a rebirth of interest in studying the ancient writings, chief among them - the Bible. As people began to study for themselves what the Scriptures actually taught, they became amazed at the simplicity and purity of the apostolic church and horrified at the complexity and corruption of the Roman Catholic Church.



Reformers like Luther in Germany, Zwingli in Switzerland, Calvin in Geneva and Knox in Scotland rose up to denounce the Catholic Church and to cry out for its reform and purification from within. They rejected the idolatry and superstition of the Catholic Church but accepted the state-church system of so-called Christian governments and Christian countries. Even after the reformers broke with Rome, they still retained infant baptism, defended the torture and killing of heretics and rejected the apostolic doctrines of discipleship, non-resistance and non-conformity.

Because of this compromise of the reformers, there arose in the 1500's groups of sincere Christians who rejected the idea of the mere reformation of Catholicism and aimed for nothing less than the restoration of the apostles' doctrine and fellowship. The leaders of the restoration movement were men like Conrad Grebel, Felix Manz, George Blaurock, and later Menno Simons, Alexander Mack and Samuel Froelich, among many others. These men went about teaching and preaching their faith, summoning people everywhere to break with the world and worldly churches and become obedient followers of the Word of God.

This resulted in their being opposed and persecuted by both the Catholic Church and the Protestant reformers and brought untold suffering into the lives of those who stood for the truth of the Gospel. By their enemies they were called anabaptists (rebaptizers) because of their refusal to recognize infant baptism and their insistence on believer's baptism. Their movement was blessed of God and spread throughout Europe, being gladly received by the common people and those courageous leaders who desired to obey God and be true to the original pattern of the New Testament church.

The Brethren movement begins...

Within Germany, many Lutherans eventually became unhappy with the formalism of worship and ritual in their state church and with the general barrenness of German Protestantism. Taking their theology and much of their practice from the older anabaptists (eventually known as Mennonites), these pietists, as they were called, took the New Testament literally and endeavored to put its teachings into practice even in the least detail of their lives. They spurned the ideal of apostolic succession, and at the heart of the practice was a love feast, or agape, which included the serving of the Lord's Supper preceded by a ceremony of footwashing. From these German pietists were born the German Baptist Brethren. Often called Tunkers, or Dunkers, the brotherhood had its beginning in 1708 with eight persons in Schwarzenau, Germany.



### The Brethren move to America...

Because of economic necessity and persecution in central Germany, one group, of Dunkers, under the leadership of Peter Becker, came to America in 1719 to take up free lands offered by William Penn. The members settled in Germantown, near Philadelphia, from where they eventually spread across the country.

The Brethren enjoyed healthy growth until 1881-1883 when the church split into three groups: the progressive Dunkers formed the Brethren Church; the conservative Dunkers formed the Church of the Brethren (the Dunkard Brethren formed from this branch in 1926 as the main body progressed further from Scriptural truths.); the remaining Old Order Dunkers formed the Old German Baptist Brethren Church and the Old Brethren.

We are reminded by church history that many churches began through the desire of men of God to restore the doctrine and fellowship of New Testament Christianity. And yet we mark in alarm how so many of these same churches have tended to gradually drift away from apostolic standards and settle back into the world out of which they were originally called.

Some groups today...

Brethren churches still seeking to remain faithful to this New Testament standard today include: Old German Baptist Brethren, Old Brethren, Dunkard Brethren, a few conservative, plain Church of the Brethren congregations and some independent community Brethren groups.

We welcome guests and encourage you to visit soon; you will be warmly welcomed.

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The above article is the text of a new tract recently approved by the Tract Examining Committee. Unlike previous tracts, it is not being published in the standard brochure form. Space is available at the end for an address and even a map for individual congregations. Any congregation desiring to use this tract should contact the Editor. Send him the pertinent information. He will return a master, which can be taken to a printer or copy shop, where it can be reproduced on fairly heavy paper. This is especially designed to hand out to those who are not familiar with the Dunkard Brethren Church. —The Editor

## **BUILDING ON THE ROCK**

The Rock, Christ Jesus, is the firm foundation that the floods can never destroy. Selah. He is the giver of the life giving waters, that never cease to flow.

Matt. 7:24-27, "Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his

house upon a rock. And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it."

There are two houses described here. The one house was built on the sand, the other on a rock foundation. Perhaps to look at them both, they looked alike to the human eye. But there is quite a difference. The foolish man paid no attention to his foundation. He simply collected his building materials, hurriedly fitted them together and moved in. Notice it says **HE BUILT HIS HOUSE**. This is man's spiritual problem today, he is building his own Spiritual house with the materials he wants to use. He uses materials that appeal to man and his carnal nature. They are not designed for the stability of the soul. The commandments of God that anchor his building to the solid rock are often omitted. The building is weak without a foundation and cannot withstand the ravages of Satan's flood of sin. Hence the occupant and his household are swept away by the wind and the flood.

Now let us take a look at the wise builder. He took thought, wisely selecting the solid rock for the foundation. He carefully chose the materials to be used, then he founded or bonded them to the rock. Each perfect piece was fastened with care so that it was a finished product that stood the test when the storms came. It is the same way with our Spiritual lives.

Noah's ark was an example of such a building also. He carried out each and every commandment God gave him, whether it be big or small. Suppose he had failed to pitch only one crack in the bottom of the ark? I do not believe the ark would have withstood the ravages of the storm and flood. Then all would have been lost. So, we must search the Scriptures, find the keys to the kingdom of God, seek diligently with an open and ready heart to surrender our will to God's will. Then He will come into our hearts and lives. He will sup with us and direct us that we will be included with the wise virgins when He calls. We will not be with the foolish virgins who will be left on earth to endure the wrath of man and God in the destruction of this sinful world.

The lukewarm teaching by the leaders of today's Laodicean churches is "Believe on Jesus and you are saved. He has paid the price. Our only requirement is belief in Him to be saved." They are



passing up many things the Bible teaches, saying they are not necessary anymore. God says "For I am the Lord, I change not..." Mal. 3:6. Man is saying the mode of baptism does not matter, in fact, it is not even necessary. The prayer veil was only commanded one time therefore it is not very important. On and on subtractions have been made on God's Word. Now supposedly all we need to do is sit on the deck (as if we were on a sailing vacation) enjoying the sinful things of the world, having an expectation of escaping the sin burning inferno that God said will destroy all evil. James, the Apostle, says "Faith without works is dead." James 2:26.

Today is the day of salvation. Time has almost run out for this dispensation. Man's work week of six thousand years is almost complete. Then the Sabbath rest day of one thousand years will be ushered in, when the righteous will live and reign with Christ on earth. But the wicked will not be resurrected until the one thousand years has expired. Rev. 20:5.

Our lives, now, will determine which resurrection we will take part in. We must be prepared to build our spiritual houses on the Rock, Christ Jesus. We can not be partakers of the lukewarm Laodicean Church. Today is the day of salvation, tomorrow may be too late.

Sister Ruth M. Snyder  
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### **IF A MAN LOVE ME**

"...If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him." John 14:23.

Much hinges on that little word, "if". We often hear people looking back on their lives with regret. They say, "If only I would have done this or that, things would be different." They say, "If I had a million dollars," or "If I just could win the lottery, I could do this or that." Hindsight solves nothing, except to illustrate the tragedy of a wasted life, or misplaced ambition. The world places high regard on riches and social position and looks down upon those whose interests are not in line with theirs. If you have riches, use them for the honor and glory of God and you will have treasure in heaven.

Our scripture contains quite a promise, and Christians know that God is ever true to His promises. The Believer in Christ has a tremendous blessing: God's indwelling. When Christ gave His all on the cross for us He made it possible for us to have a renewed relationship with the Godhead. Not only that, but our relationship with God is even better than it was at the beginning with Adam and Eve in



the garden because we have now been BOUGHT WITH A PRICE.

One there is above all others,  
Well deserves the name of friend.  
His is love beyond a brothers,  
Costly, free, and knows no end.  
They who once his kindness prove,  
Find it everlasting love.

Can anyone with mere words adequately describe that love to others? It is better felt than told. Yet we continue to try to tell it, because He means so much to us.

"We love him, because he first loved us." 1 John 4:19.

Brother Lynn H. Miller

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## ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Just a few...

We are living in a confusing age concerning religion. It would seem that this is the age of Christian balloons, Christian gimmicks, Christian "born again" political candidates, Christian athletes, Christian gyms, Christian clubs, Contemporary Christian music, Christian everything. Yet, at the same time, there is more compromise and apathy in Christianity than there has been in the past several decades. We cannot help thinking of Paul's writing, "Do not be deceived!" There has to be a real separation of God's people from the kingdom of the world...because "Strait is the gate and narrow is the way...and FEW THERE BE THAT FIND IT."

We have a choice today to either believe what Paul has taught us under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit or just go along with the religious trends of the time.

Christian broadcasters and programs emphasize the importance of voting and being involved in this world's system, when God's Word tells us that we are "Not of this world." Do we find real harmony in both? Which one is correct? It is easy for us to be religious, enthusiastic, charismatic and even to know all of the right words and phrases that saints are supposed to use, but it is not easy to separate ourselves from the world and the current, prevailing thinking. If we do not repent of our condition and move toward the center of God's will for His Church, we will pay the consequences for our lack of commitment.

I am the first to admit that we all are going to stumble and fall and make wrong decisions and even sin. If we think that we are not, we are just kidding ourselves. All of us! We have to pray that God will

work through His Holy Spirit in our lives so we can make quality decisions concerning our direction in life. We need to pray that He will help us to work through the immaturity in our Christian characters. When we do fall, we will respond in sorrow and repentance — then go on toward maturity.

A new creature in Christ must continue to set priorities based on God's Word. We just can not do what seems right in our own eyes and maintain a close relationship with the Master.

We need to be in the Word. Only in its pages will we find real truth. Only as we follow its mandates will we really make an impact in this world. It is the Word that teaches us simple truths — lifesaving truths such as: Jesus was born of a virgin; He lived a sinless life; He died for us on Calvary; He rose from the dead; He ascended on high; and He is seated at the right hand of God. If we reject any of these simple truths, we can not be saved nor can we ever be successful in our life. You might say, "Well, I am far too sophisticated and cultured to let my life revolve around such simple theology." Believe me. Confronting present-day teachings and false teachers is a must. Stay true to the Lord at all costs in these "end times" days. Yield all your life to the Lordship of Jesus...all the way, every day.

Brother Len Wertz

### **MORE THAN THE FATHER**

Acts 4:10-12, "Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole. This is the stone which was set at naught of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."

Acts 4:31, "And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness."

There are at least three major schools of theology that deny the reality of the Trinity. All three schools of thought go back many years to their beginning. In more recent times they have had an influence on mainline Christianity. This has grown to such a proportion that many have accepted the subtle error without realizing the consequences.

The first school of thought we would like to look at is Unitarianism. This school of thought is usually identified as those who deny the Trinity. They could not grasp the truth that God is One and yet, as



our Dunkard Brethren Church Polity teaches, "The Godhead is one, consisting of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit."

The second school of thought we would like to look at is Deism. This school of thought is identified as a belief in the existence of a personal God, based solely on the testimony of reason and rejecting supernatural revelation. There are those who contend that a large number of the founding fathers of America were deists. Be that as it may, this school of thought has had a great influence on many mainline denominations. A very large percentage of leaders within modern Christendom deny the miracles in both the Old and the New Testament.

The last school of thought we would like to look at is Arianism. This school of thought is identified as those who teach that Christ is not one substance with God the Father. Many of the major cults are the spiritual posterity of Arianism. This has also had its effect on modern religious thought.

We believe, as do many conservative scholars of the Bible, that the patriarchs of the Old Testament believed in the Holy Trinity, although they did not fully understand it. However, by the time Jesus Christ came on the scene as a man, this truth had been lost to the nation of Israel. This was one of the major reasons that the various Jewish sects could not accept the fact that God had a Son.

Many religious leaders of our day who call themselves "Christian" would say that this would not be an important issue. But the church leaders of the New Testament made this their priority and were willing to suffer and even die to proclaim this truth! Peter (filled with the Holy Ghost) made it known that all, and he specially named all the people of Israel so there would be no misunderstanding, had to accept Jesus Christ as their Savior.

Are we willing to speak this truth with boldness today? Like the Jews of old, the Lord Jesus Christ is being crucified anew and we refuse to take part in the blame because we have not done the actual crucifying. If we are silent we share the guilt. God has raised Him from the dead, which along with the other miracles, is being denied by modern religion. He was raised as a body, not as a spirit. There is a spiritual truth in this. God has given us the power to defeat error. The confrontation came about between the Jewish leaders and the apostles because of the healing of a lame man. They made it plain that Jesus Christ was the healer. So it is even today.

Beyond physical healing is the healing of the soul from sin. The reason we must contend for the Holy Trinity and expose those schools of thought and their followers is the glorious truth taught at this setting. "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none



other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."

Brother James M. Hite  
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Palmyra, PA 17078-2704

**SIXTY YEARS AGO**  
May 15, 1935  
**IMITATION RELIGION**  
L. W. Beery

In every line of endeavor in life one is continually confronted with imitation. It stands out as one of the arts of the modern scientific and inventive age and there is hardly anything of value to men but what something has been invented to take it's place. Many of these imitations are very useful but most of them fall far short of the genuine when it comes to durability.

Many of these imitations have a good appearance but they are usually less expensive and for this reason there is a good demand for them. Although many of these products are very cleverly made there are always ways of distinguishing them from the genuine. It often pays one well to secure the genuine even though the original cost may be greater.

This is especially true when it comes to spiritual matters, for in this too are we confronted with many imitations. It cannot be otherwise under existing conditions. We are told in Ephesians 4:45, "There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism." This is speaking of the genuine religion of Jesus Christ and this we should be vitally interested in.

With conditions as they now are in professed Christianity we are all aware of the fact that there are many Lords, many faiths and many baptisms proclaimed before the world. According to the foregoing reference there must be a great amount of imitation religion in the day in which we live.

In this too we notice that many of the imitations have a very good appearance (especially to the carnal eye), many of them are very inexpensive (no sacrifice, no self-denial, no restraint and no cross bearing) and this type is very well received and supported by the masses.

It will also be noticed that many of these imitations in religion are very cleverly patterned after the genuine. In spite of this however we need not be deceived, as we have a means at our command whereby

the soundness of any system of religion can be determined; namely by comparing it with the word of the New Testament as given us by Jesus our Lord.

Genuine religion is that which gets its origin from above, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16.)

Genuine religion accepts Christ as the Savior of a lost and sin cursed world.

The religion of Jesus Christ regenerates men and makes of them new creatures. "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." (II Cor. 5:17.) The genuine religion then, begets spiritual life to those who obey the written word in faith believing. "It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life." (John 6:63.)

Genuine religion not only consists in accepting the word of Christ but also in "continuing therein;" "Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on Him, if ye continue in My word, then are ye my disciples indeed." (John 8:31.)

Continuing in the word of Christ indicates the keeping and observance of the commandments, statutes and ordinances as given us in the New Testament, the most of which have been cast aside by the many popular imitations in religion. Jesus said, "He that hath my commandments and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me." (John 14:21.) "But whoso keepeth His word, in Him verily is the love of God perfected hereby know we that we are in him." (I John 2:5.)

From these passages of scripture it will be no hard matter for us to determine if the religion that we have is the genuine or if it is just an empty imitation.

In our investigation along this line should we discover that we have been deceived by one of these many modern imitations it would be wise indeed, at any cost to cast the imitation aside and accept the genuine.

Any system of religion that is not in harmony with the teachings of Christ is an imitation and will not profit one in the end.

Jesus said, "Why call ye Me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say" (Luke 6:46.)

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## **ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR JUNE 1995**

June 4 - Manna and Quail - Exodus 16:1-21.

1. For what purpose, other than physical food, did God send manna and quail?
2. How do you suppose God views greed and hoarding beyond our needs today?

June 11 - Resting On The Sabbath - Exodus 16:22-36.

1. Compare no manna on the Sabbath with the Genesis account of creation.
2. Explain how, and why, sometimes the manna spoiled over night and other times it did not spoil, even for generations?

June 18 - Father's Day - Luke 1:57-80.

1. Why was not the child named after his father?
2. From Zacharias's prophecy, explain God's plan of salvation?

June 25 - Temperance - Proverbs 23:1-35.

1. To how many, and to what areas of life does temperance apply?
2. When is not moderation a good definition of temperance?

## **YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR JUNE 1995**

June 4 - Sowing and Reaping - Ps. 126, Hosea 10:12-13, II Cor. 9:6, Gal. 6:7-9.

1. What is the ratio of the seed to the harvest?
2. Compare the similarities and differences of the two harvests?

June 11 - Temptation - I Cor. 10:1-14, James 1:2-3, 12, II Pet. 2:4-10.

1. What does God's Word say about the often used excuse, that some people face greater temptations than others?
2. Why should we be joyful when temptation comes our way?

June 18 - Father's Day - Gen. 27:1-46.

1. Compare the intentions and actions of Isaac and Rebekah in this account.
2. Why could not Isaac bless Easau?

June 25 - Temperance - Is. 5:11-14, Acts 24:24-26, Rom. 6:16-18, Gal. 5: 22-26.

1. Explain the relationship between righteousness, temperance, and judgement.
2. How does the Holy Spirit help us be temperament?



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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## A MISSIONARY'S PRAYER

Lord, I long to be  
Just burning for Thee,

In a world sick with sin  
And no peace within.

Help me to be  
A better servant for Thee,

To go into the night  
And show sinners the true Light,

That You they should receive  
If they would only believe.

Brother Randall J. Reed

## HOMECOMING

Many organizations organize a special day called "homecoming". A special event is deemed important enough to invite many people who have had a connection with that organization over the years. The event usually marks some significant anniversary or achievement. On the set day, people will gather, often from a great distance, to mark this event and to remember past times. Although nostalgia may be involved in these homecomings, they can encourage the attendees to advance the organization's program. A homecoming may be an industrial firm's regathering of past employees and managers. It may be a school's gathering of past pupils and teachers. It may be a congregation's gathering of past ministers, members and families. The homecoming event can be enjoyable bringing together people who are not together regularly. A day or a few days are set aside to nurture relationships amongst these special people.

General Conference is the Church's yearly homecoming. This is a time when members can be with each other. As members travel across the country to Conference, they are looking forward to a time of fellowship with those of like precious faith. Of course, there will be interest in the business that will be conducted. There will be a wonderful time of worship. God will be praised and honored through the preaching, singing and praying during this Conference. There will be many Spiritual resolutions formed within the hearts of those attending. As all these activities are done, there will remain a great desire for fellowship.

As Conference makes its quadrennial trek across the country, more members have the opportunity to become acquainted with those

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they would never see otherwise. Like an ordinary homecoming, Conference is a gathering of those who are not with each other very often. Some will meet for the first time. Others will be together who make a habit of attending Conference every year.

Although there may be some looking back, there will be many challenges to looking forward during Conference. Christians can not continue to live in the past. It is wonderful to recount the victories of our Spiritual forefathers. Their lives have become as legends to us. Their stories provide inspiration for us as we meet the trials of life. As encouraging as these stories may be, still we must face the situations of our own day. We must do the courageous things that will become legends for our descendants. There are challenges for us to face today. Decisions must be made. Goals must be set. Resolutions must be made, not on paper, but in hearts and minds. Opportunities may come disguised as challenges. Only after we have met those challenges will we recognize them as the opportunities they really were.

General Conference helps us be successful in meeting these challenges. We can better achieve our goals by pursuing them as a group rather than as individuals. As individuals we do our own thing; as a group we do what will be best for all. It has long been recognized that a united effort will accomplish more than what individuals can do. When acting as individuals we may not have all the facts or understand all the ramifications of a certain act, but we are more likely to get the whole picture when all contribute to the making of a decision. Minds can be changed when challenged by the group's reasoning. Scriptural and Spiritual ramifications may be more evident after a matter has been considered by the whole group. The leading of the Holy Spirit may be more noticeable when several are led the same way, rather than just one.

The dangers of the world around us are real. When we meet at General Conference, the world seems temporarily shut out. We are prepared through the religious exercises of that meeting to better meet the dangers of the world. The more united we are in Conference, the greater our power in meeting the Devil's attacks. We are empowered by our participation in General Conference.

In a small way Conference is a foretaste of the ultimate homecoming. The fellowship and worship of Conference will prepare us for those activities in Heaven. As a small group met in Conference we are preparing for an eternal homecoming Up There. Conference will last a few days here but Heaven will be for eternity. It is good for us to use every opportunity to better prepare ourselves for our Heavenly Home.

Do you enjoy homecoming occasions? Are you planning to attend the Homecoming this month? Are you preparing for the Great Homecoming in Heaven?



### **“KODI SIDA”**

This expression is taken from the November 1994 Torreon Navajo Bulletin, which described a typical school day for Aaron Chiquito. It is Navajo for “I’m sitting here.”

How do we answer when God calls us?

In Genesis 22, Abraham answered three times with the words, “Here am I.” In verses 1 and 2 God called him to a very difficult thing. In verses 11 to 13 God informed him that He was satisfied, and supplied a substitute offering. In verse 7 he faced a very difficult question from his son. In all of these calls he not only answered, but he acted upon the commands he received.

In Exodus 3 is recorded the call of God to Moses out of the burning bush, and he answered, “Here am I.” More importantly he did what God required of him. He felt he could not do it, but he did it, albeit, with great reluctance. At times he became very discouraged, but he carried on, in obedience to God’s commands.

In I Samuel 3:1-10 is recorded, that before the Lamp of God went out in the temple of the Lord, God called Samuel. Samuel answered, “Here am I”. More importantly he obeyed and served the Lord as long as he lived.

In Isaiah 6:1-13 God said, “Whom shall I send?” Isaiah said, “Here am I, send me.” He was given a very difficult message, but he was faithful to deliver it.

Matthew 4:18-22, 9:9, Mark 1:16-20, Luke 5:1-11 and 27-28 tell of some, who when Jesus called, left all and followed Him. Matthew 8:18-22 and Luke 9:57-62 tells of some who were not willing to answer the call. They were not willing to leave all.

Acts 9:1-22 tells of the call and answer of Saul of Tarsus, later known as Paul. He immediately acted upon the command of God.

The question is how do you, and how do I answer the call?

Pray for us and for one another.

God bless you all.

Brother William Carpenter

### **THE DANGER OF ESCALATING SIN**

Isaiah 30:1, “Woe to the rebellious children, saith the lord, that take counsel, but not of me; and that cover with a covering, but not of my spirit, that they may add sin to sin:”

Hosea 13:2, “And now they sin more and more, and have made them molten images of their silver, and idols according to their own understanding, all of it the work of the craftsmen: they say of them, Let the men that sacrifice kiss the calves.”

James 1:15, “Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.”

We are living in a day when, for many people, sin is hard to define. Some popular church leaders have made sin an archaic word no longer useful in our modern society. Others are faithful in pointing out the sins found in government and other worldly institutions. We are thankful for those who cry out against such sins as homosexuality and abortion. But what has happened to those who have cried out against the sin of a rebellious spirit?

We believe God still is concerned about His rebellious children. They are willing to take counsel, but not from the Word of God. Christian psychology has become a popular leader in the thinking of modern day Christianity. We do not deny that there is some truth to the teaching that we can become so self debasing that an individual recognizes his weak and worthless status in the sight of a holy God.

The sad fact is that all too many professing Christians cover with a covering, but not of the Spirit of God. We know that it is the blood of Jesus Christ that not only covers our sins but takes them away. However, all too many conclude their relationship with God at this point. They do not allow the Holy Spirit to lead them into all truth and away from the snares of Satan found in the desires of this world. They quench the Spirit that they may add sin to sin.

After they successfully silence the convicting power of the Holy Spirit they are free to sin more and more. They make molten images of their silver. Most of us are guilty of using our money to please ourselves to the extent that we can afford. It may not be sinful to have possessions but when our possessions take precedence over the things of God they are a danger. They make idols of their own understanding, all of it the work of the craftsmen. No longer do most Christians seek the leading of the Holy Spirit to determine what is pleasing to God and what is not. Instead they seek the counsel of popular Christianity that tells them that their idols of manmade amusements are not sinful unless THEY make them sin. They cry, "Let the men that sacrifice kiss the calves." A church leader dressed in the latest style is not going to warn against following the trends of the world. If his wife is covered with jewelry and has her face filled with makeup it is very unlikely that he is going to warn against looking like the world. IN our day it is quite likely that a woman will be doing a lot of the teaching. We are not going to question such individual's salvation. That is God's department. We are convinced that such teachers are leading many into escalating sin. How much influence are they having in our own Dunkard Brethren Church?

When we think of lust we usually think of sexual sin but lust covers much more than that. We lust after power, amusements, self satisfaction and other worldly allurements. When we lust long enough it will bring forth sin. And sin, when it is finished brings forth spiritual death. May we heed the warning and truly seek the mind of God



within His Holy Word and through the leading of the Holy Spirit.

Brother James M. Hite

816 E. Birch St.

Palmyra, PA 17078-2704

## **FALSIFIERS**

Webster defines "falsifiers" as, "Telling things not true, incorrect, wrong, misleading, a lie, to misrepresent," and so forth.

The Bible gives plenty of warning about false prophets, false Christs, false apostles, false teachers, false witnesses, and so forth.

Jesus, in Matt. 24:24, states, "For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect." Certainly Christ's prophecies are being fulfilled, rapidly, in our generation.

God's Word tells us very plainly that He CREATED man after His own likeness. Evolutionists teach that man evolved from a lower species of the animal kingdom. We know the Bible is true. Teachers and advocates of evolution are falsifiers.

The Apostle Paul met much opposition to his ministry. He strongly made this statement in II Cor. 11:13, "For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ."

Satan, the devil, prompts the falsifiers. He is determined to counteract the work and teachings of Christ, who brought to earth God's plan for salvation. He sealed that one and only plan with His shed blood, as it flowed from His body hanging on the cross of Calvary.

II Peter 2:1 gives the following warning, "But there WERE false prophets also among the people, EVEN AS THERE BE FALSE teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction."

In Matt. 7:15, Jesus speaking, "Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves." Wolves out to devour!

Again, in Mark 13:22, Jesus' words, "For false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall shew signs and wonders, to seduce, if it were possible, even the elect." God's Word contains many more warnings about being aware and alert to the teachings of false doctrines.

What are the falsifiers advocating and teaching today?

We hear today, that to be saved one has only to fall down before their radio or television to receive salvation. What a lie!

Jesus said, "Ye must be born again." Not reborn physically, but be



born of the water and the Spirit. That requires immersion baptism. Those who ignore Jesus' teaching are not building on the Rock, but on the sand.

Today, in many modern churches, they have bake sales, raffles, worldly amusements, and so forth. This is absolutely wrong. Church leaders who permit it are simply ignoring the fact that Christ, nearly two thousand years ago cleansed the temple and drove out those who made the temple a house of merchandise.

The thirteenth chapter of John is a very important chapter to a Christian. Our salvation hinges on it. A radio preacher said, "There will be no foot-tubs in MY church." I would never want to be a member in HIS church. Why? For the simple reason, that when Peter at first refused to have his feet washed, Jesus told him, "If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with me." Peter, realizing his mistake and the seriousness of it, readily agreed to feet washing.

I personally know a minister who, on the beginning of a New Year, announced that he would be preaching most of the year on the Book of John. When he came to the thirteenth chapter he announced that he would skip that chapter, since it was not relevant in any way.

The same situation exists over Christendom regarding non-conformity, bobbed hair, the prayer veil, not taking the oath and so forth.

We who have been taught to believe and put into practice God's Word, by our foreparents, have received a great heritage.

Much, much more could be written regarding my subject.

The Apostle Paul, a true follower of Jesus wrote to Timothy in II Tim. 4:3-5, "For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables. But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry."

That time has come!

Jesus foreknew the coming of the false servants and He knew the results of such teaching.

In Luke 18:8b, Jesus speaking, "Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?"

In light of the fact of the many falsifiers in our day, let us, each one take the counsel of Jesus as recorded in Revelation 2:10b, "be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life."

The Late Brother Paul R. Myers

## **FOR SENIOR CHRISTIANS THE DEEPER LIFE IN CHRIST**

It seems one of the awesome parts of the "senior Christian" life should be the fact that you are at a time when you can experience the full richness of the Christian life. That is the deeper life. It is the bottom of the well where the water is freshest and coolest.

There are a number of terms that have been used to describe the advanced stage of the Christian experience that the mature Christian may enjoy. Whether it is the "higher life," the "overcoming life," the "crucified life" or the "deeper life", it is a special time of communion with the Lord.

This victorious life is a part of being "grown up" in Jesus. It is to be relished and looked forward to. It is the time in life when surrender is reached. There is that greater consecration in the Lord's service. It is a time when separation does not seem like a challenge but a special arrangement with God for the regenerated mind. It is a time when the prayer life is vital and the appropriation of faith is full.

The term "abiding" in Christ seems to fit the senior years of life better than at any other time of life. This is the opportunity to practice the presence of the constantly abiding love of the Lord. It is the time to enter into the holy of holies and there abide deeply in the Saviour's arms.

Now, even though this is the rich time of life, yet, there are still some dangers that can be experienced in the senior years. First, there is the danger of having an unhealthy introspection and self-centeredness. If you glory in having reached these spiritual heights, you can hardly avoid an attitude of pride concerning this attainment.

The second danger is that you may become so enamored by your experience in living the abundant life that you neglect to reach out to others and share these blessings, which the Lord has given to you. You might even get to the point where you receive what you believe to be direct revelations from God, Himself, and as a result, you are no longer in tune with the need for continuing study and prayer.

Remember, the Holy Spirit will never lead you to do or to believe anything that is contrary to the Scripture.

The real secret of the abundant, victorious, fruitful Senior Christian life is no secret at all. Just as you began the physical life as a babe and grew to maturity and usefulness through proper sustenance and training, so it is with your current spiritual life. You have continued to grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. (II Peter 3:18) This has made the difference in your life.

The sustenance for your continuing spiritual growth and influence in your senior years is the Word of God. There is absolutely no short-cut and no substitute for the study of the Scriptures. In this sense,



you are still a Biblical babe, desiring the sincere milk of the Word and growing thereby. As you study, you will be a doer.

You have attained special God given wisdom and knowledge. Share it with us. Share it with those who are younger. Share it with those who desire to know more about what you have learned. Fill our lives with God's grace by your faithful presence at services and other church activities. Come into our lives and help to make them rich with your experience and love.

Brother Len Wertz

## TWO ARE BETTER THAN ONE

"Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up. Again, if two lie together, then they have heat: but how can one be warm alone? And if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken." Ecclesiastes 4:9-12.

We have often heard that the Bible contains all the advice and rules for life that we will ever need. Our scripture lesson is a classic example of the Bible dispensing good advice and also explaining itself well. Why are two better than one? Ask anyone who is married and whose marriage is grounded on the rock. Ask any local assembly of believers that abides by the nearly forgotten plural ministry, and whose ministers think not of themselves but of the continuance of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Why are some so interested in having the pre-eminence when the system set forth in God's Word is so efficient? It says that a threefold cord is not quickly broken. Why is it that there are so many little cliques that refuse to allow others in? Psalm 133 says, "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!" The marriage union is not a master/slave relationship, but each one has his or her place to occupy. It is likewise with the church. There is no dictator/serf relationship, but each one occupying their place in God's economy. We are there to help each other, and lift up one another. Philip, who was a deacon, was not content to wait on tables alone, but he preached the Word to those in need of the Gospel. There is more to the Christian life than just attending church on Sunday. One who has been born again and has put his faith and trust in Christ, should he not be like Elihu in the book of Job? He said, "For I am full of matter, the spirit within me constraineth me. Behold, my belly is as wine which hath no vent; it is ready to burst like new bottles. I will speak, that I may be refreshed: I will open my lips and answer." Job 32:18-20. Is not the Gospel like a fire in our bosom that we must share with others? If the Holy Spirit constrains us to share the Gospel with others, can the Holy Spirit also



constrain us to work together as brethren for the furtherance of that Gospel?

Sovereign Ruler of the skies,  
Ever gracious, ever wise,  
All my times are in thy hand,  
All events at thy command.

Brother Lynn H. Miller  
RD 2 Box 561  
Newmanstown, PA 17073

## **SIXTY YEARS AGO**

June 1, 1935

### **CHRIST'S RETURN**

J. A. Leckron

It is hard to understand how anyone can read the Bible and not believe in the second coming of Christ. It is still harder to understand how passages that clearly predict His coming can be erroneously interpreted or explained away. There are those, for instance, who tell us that every time a Christian dies, Christ returns. That the second coming means death. But, my friends, there are six reasons why this could never be.

First: The events of I Thess. 4:16-17 do not occur at death. Listen, "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord." Now my dear reader, we want to say to you, that when a Christian dies the Lord does not descend from heaven with a shout, the dead do not rise, and those of us who are alive are not caught up with them in the clouds, nor do we meet the Lord in the air. And since these events must all take place when Christ returns, and since none of them occur at death, therefore the second advent cannot mean death.

Second: The statement of I Cor. 15:51, "We shall not all sleep" (die), is flatly contradicted if the second coming of Christ means death. According to this passage there will be at least one generation of Christians who will never die, the generation that will be living when He comes. "We shall not all sleep."

Third: The second coming is always spoken of as a comforting hope, whereas death is an enemy, (I Cor. 15:26). It is one thing to die, it is quite another thing to live and meet the Lord. "Wherefore comfort one another with these words."

Fourth: Christ comes for us; we do not go to Him as in death. "I will come again and receive you unto myself," He says. (John 14:3.)

Fifth: John 21:21-23 differentiates the second coming from death. "If I will that he (John) tarry till I come," says Jesus. "Then went this saying abroad that that disciple (John) should not die." Nothing could be plainer. They understood it. Christ's coming was one thing and John's dying another. The report went around that John might live until Christ returned. That is conclusive proof. In fact, it is absolutely unanswerable.

Sixth: Substitute the word "death" and the passage about the second coming becomes meaningless. Take, for instance, Phil. 3:20, "For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for (death) the Lord Jesus Christ." How absurd! "From whence also we look for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ."

Now try Matt. 16:28: "There be some standing here that shall not taste of death, till they see (death) coming in His kingdom." What nonsense! Are death and Christ synonymous? Of course not. "Till they see the Son of Man coming in His kingdom." We trust that no one will ever again be so utterly foolish as to think that the second coming of Christ means death. Such a conclusion is without any scriptural support.

There are those who tell us that the predictions regarding Christ's return were fulfilled on the Day of Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit came. They say that the coming of the Holy Spirit was the promised coming of Christ. But there are two main reasons why that could never be.

First: Many of the promises regarding the second coming of Christ were made after the Day of Pentecost and the coming of the Holy Spirit, for instance, Phil. 3:21, II Tim. 4:8, I Thess. 4:16-17. All these predictions and many more were made after Pentecost. Then He could not have come in the person of the Holy Spirit, or there would have been no later promise of His still future coming.

The church still looked forward to His coming, long after Pentecost, for He had not yet come.

Second: The events of I Thess. 4:16-17 did not occur on the day of Pentecost. Read the account and see. The Lord did not descend from heaven. There was not resurrection of the dead. Believers or saints, were not caught up in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. In fact, Peter and the rest of the disciples remained on the streets of Jerusalem most of that day taking care of the multitude, they were very busy baptizing those three thousand that repented of their sins. Not one was caught up. Hence, Pentecost was not the second coming.

The scriptural view is surely plain enough when it says, "The Lord

himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trump of God." (1 Thess. 4:1.) And again, "This same Jesus which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into heaven" and "Behold He cometh with clouds, and every eye shall see Him." (Rev. 1:7.)

We have no clearer, plainer statement of any truth in the Bible than that of the second coming of Christ, and unless language is to be wrenched out of its setting and rendered meaningless, we cannot mistake it. If God did not mean what He said, why did He not say what He meant? Nay, we believe He did say what He meant, and meant what He said. If we do not take the word of God as it reads concerning Christ's second coming, how can we blame the Jews for not taking it literally regarding His first coming. Every prophecy about His first advent was literally fulfilled.

Such positive statements as "They pierced My hands and My feet. They gave Me gall, mixed with vinegar, to drink." (Psa. 22, Psa. 34, Psa. 41:9, Psa. 55:12-14, Isa. 50:6, Isa. 53, Micah, 5:2, Zech. 13:7.) Look them up.

Again we say, do not blame the Jews for rejecting the prophecies concerning His first advent if you reject those about His second, for they are plainer by far. If He could come as an infant, why not as a King? Of course, it was hard for the Jews to think of their God becoming a helpless babe. There is some excuse for them. They expected a king. Well, next time He will come as a King. He will not be disguised. Is it not easier to expect Him as a King?

After all, my dear readers, there is no question about His second coming, but there is a question about us being ready to meet Him when He comes, and it looks very much like the time is drawing to a close; then how careful we should live so we may be in the condition of the five wise virgins, and if we are like them, we will have no oil over to spare to those that were careless and indifferent about their soul's welfare.

Oh, that we all might have more zeal, and take life more seriously, that it means much to be a Christian, and it takes more than having our names on the church register. we must live such lives here that we may know we have our names written in the Lamb's Book of Life. May the Lord so help us to live that whether we are alive or dead when Jesus comes, we will have so lived that we may be permitted to meet Him in the air, is our prayer.



## OUR SATURDAY NIGHT

The Sunbonnet in Jerusalem

J. H. Moore

In company with others it was my privilege to spend Thanksgiving in Jerusalem in 1898. We occupied pleasant quarters on the third floor of an excellent hotel. Many a time have I passed up an easy flight of stairs to the flat roof for the purpose of looking over the city. The hotel stands near the Jaffa Gate, and the top commands a fine view of the greater part of Jerusalem. In a place like this one can profitably spend months reading and studying. The Bible student never seems to grow weary of the sacred associations. But now and then there are occurrences here, as well as elsewhere, outside of the usual, and we now refer to one of them.

A large upper room in the hotel was prepared for the Thanksgiving services. Chairs were brought in from different rooms and arranged together in church fashion, with an isle on each side. In front was placed a neatly-covered table and a chair for the minister. Here and there the stars and stripes were displayed, and in a general way the room was made to look somewhat American-like. A number of Americans were stopping at the hotel, there were others in and about the city, and by the time they had gathered in the room we had a real respectable looking audience.

The services were led by a Methodist minister of fine address, he being assisted by others. The talk was good, the song service inspiring, and the spirit of the gathering somewhat patriotic as well as religious. It was a little remarkable that a purely American Thanksgiving service should thus be held on the northern section of Mt. Zion, near where once stood the marble palace of Herod the Great, and not far from the spot formerly occupied by the gilded palace of King Solomon.

Reflections of this kind, however, were somewhat interrupted by the appearance of a plainly-attired and intelligent looking lady, wearing a real old-fashioned, brown sunbonnet. Her appearance immediately attracted my attention. Her bonnet was not like that worn by most of our sisters of today, but about such a bonnet as might have been seen in a well-regulated church thirty or forty years ago. I had seen no bonnets, save those worn by the sisters in our company, since leaving Sweden. In my own country I might have seen a bonnet of this kind in an audience and not thought much about it. But an old-fashioned split bonnet in Jerusalem aroused my curiosity. I was curious to know something about the lady, and why she was in the

Holy City.

Later our company learned more concerning her. She formerly lived in Ohio, and was then a very proud woman, caring little for the self-denying religion of Jesus. She felt herself called to work among the negroes in the South, and became fully convinced that the fashions of Paris and the religion of Jesus Christ did not blend, so she laid aside her finery, attired herself as she thought becoming a woman professing godliness, and then worked with a clear conscience.

In time she found her way to Jerusalem, and was there working among the poor Jews, trying to convince them that Jesus is their long-expected and long-promised Messiah. Her humble home was among the poorer class. Here she lived, prayed and worked. So far as I could learn, she depended upon no missionary association for support. Her only trust was in the Lord. Now and then some money came her way, and on this she lived, devoting her entire time and strength to the good of those who looked up to her for spiritual help. Those who read this story will by it be reminded of the fact that there lived in Jerusalem at that time at least one woman who looked like an intelligent, devout and earnest American sister of the Brethren church.

## OBITUARY

IRENE M. HARRIS

Sis. Irene M. Harris, 79, of New Creek, West Virginia, died Wednesday, April 19, 1995, at her residence.

Born July 22, 1915, in Grant County, West Virginia she was the daughter of the late Minor and Mary (Hardy) Leatherman.

Sis. Harris was a member of the Ridge Dunkard Brethren Church of New Creek.

Surviving are her husband, Otto F. Harris; one son, Wayne Harris and wife Barbara of New Creek; three daughters, Mildred Missenger of Littlestown, Pennsylvania, Viola Weaver and Hazel Bream of Waynesboro, Pennsylvania; four brothers, Virgil Leatherman and Garland Leatherman of Littlestown, Pennsylvania, Ralph Leatherman of Frederick, Maryland and Charles Leatherman of Wauseon, Ohio; one sister, Myra Rotruck of Winchester, Virginia; twelve grandchildren; and sixteen great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted at 11:00 A.M. Friday, April 21, at the Ridge Dunkard brethren Church with Elder Gene Kauffman officiating. Interment was on the Harris family farm.

In Loving Memory of Irene Harris  
My Mother-in-law you have been for thirty years.  
Always caring and sharing for others, you loved dear.  
Your life was like a window. Where love could shine through.  
Reflecting the Lord in whatever task was to do.  
"Were You There?" was the last song you did sing.  
And your voice still had a beautiful ring.  
Wednesday your hands fell in earthly death,  
But God lifted them up to heaven for rest.  
Death is not the end for us who believe.  
It's the beginning of life in Eternity.

Love,  
Barbara

## NEWS ITEMS

### HART, MICHIGAN

The Hart Congregation will be having Revival Meetings, July 9 through 16 with Bro. Mark Andrews as evangelist. Lovefeast will be held on Saturday, July 15 with morning and afternoon services and communion in the evening. We invite any to come and enjoy the services with us.

Sister Bev St. John, Cor.

### PLEASANT RIDGE, OHIO

The Pleasant Ridge Congregation, Ohio, plans a Harvest Meeting, July 30, 1995, with morning services. All are invited to these services.

Sister Marjorie Flory, Cor.

## THANK YOU

I wish to thank all the Brethren and Sisters for all the beautiful cards and letters and telephone calls, but especially for all your prayers for me while in the hospital and at home.

May God bless each one.

Sister Clara Gunderman



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# BIBLE MONITOR

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JUNE 15, 1995

NO. 12

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## LOVE IS THE FOUNTAIN

Love is the fountain whence  
All true obedience flows;  
The Christian serves the God he loves,  
And loves the God he knows.

He treads the heav'nly road,  
And neither faints nor tires;  
That generous love which warms his breast,  
With fortitude inspires.

No burden seems so great,  
No task so hard appears,  
But this he cheerfully performs,  
And that he meekly bears.

May love - that shining grace,  
O'er all my pow'rs preside;  
Direct my thoughts, suggest my words,  
And ev'ry action guide!

-Isaac Watts

## EXPECTATIONS

"We can accomplish nothing!" "What can a small group like ours ever hope to accomplish in this large and ungodly world?" We call this reality. Perhaps, it does express our view of the world and our prospects. Does it express God's view of the same situation?

Our view and God's view are not always the same. What we consider to be reality is only our perception. Often that perception is negative, because we can not see the whole situation as God does. He has an overview, while we only have a horizontal view. If we could get the same view as His, we would not be so easily defeated. We see only the massed forces of the enemy. We do not see the greater power of God available to us.

Our Spiritual victories, as individuals and as a Church, would be greater if we could get the view that with God's power we can not fail, if we pursue a course, consistent with His Will. This means we must be students of His Word. His Will and the direction of the Holy Spirit will never contradict the Bible. To know His Word, we must study it. We must dig out its lessons, so they will become more firmly established in our minds and lives.

When Jesus ascended to Heaven, He left behind approximately one hundred and twenty followers. It would seem those few disciples could accomplish very little. They were not a significant number in the city of Jerusalem, especially at Pentecost. That Pentecost saw the greatest revival, as three thousand were added to their number that day. If they had feared the power of the Jewish religious establishment, they would have cowered in the upper room. The Church would have ended before it really had gotten started. With the infilling of the Holy Spirit, they received a power greater than their fear. They spoke out boldly about their crucified, buried, resurrected

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**THE BIBLE MONITOR****JUNE 15, 1995**

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and ascended Saviour. Their bold speaking, although it was at first misinterpreted as the prating of drunken men, caused a significant group to become concerned about their souls' need. There were other significant ingatherings of those who had ridiculed and opposed in the past. They soon became well known and widespread throughout the Mediterranean world. It was not long until they were accused of turning the world upside down.

Christianity spread throughout the world. Over a period of time its doctrines became polluted with embellishments to and subtractions from the Bible's plain teachings. Although the Reformers, Luther, Knox and Calvin, sought to improve the situation, they failed to reestablish all the Biblical doctrines of the New Testament Church. Significantly, they continued to unite the Church with the temporal power of the State.

These confused and ungodly conditions led a few to serious Bible study. Their study prompted them to separate from the Spiritually defunct Churches they belonged to, so they could form their own group that would carry out the ordinances and other teachings of the Bible. Eight met at the River Eder, near Schwarzenau, to begin this experiment in Biblical Christianity. Their numbers soon multiplied, because they were bold in speaking to others who desired enlightenment. After several years of trials and troubles in Europe, almost all eventually emigrated to the New World. There they not only bettered their financial and physical condition, but also spread the Gospel. Through their influence and Biblical preaching, they spread across the continent. They were pioneers in some sections of the United States; in others they came soon after the frontier stage. Through doctrinal purity and godly living, they became numerous and far flung.

The Brethren of old times came to a new land and continued to spread the Gospel. Today, we often cower because we are not well recognized and we fear the ridicule of those around us. We fear to forward the work. Now we have challenges to spread the gospel farther than within our own country. The world looks big and foreboding. We have many fears for we can hardly conceive of ourselves being able to spread the Gospel and pierce the great Spiritual darkness that lies throughout the world. We may not be able to convert a whole world, but we can do our part in a little corner of that world.

We need to get God's vision of what His people can do when they work with Him. Although there may be setbacks, His vision does not include failure.

Do we have a vision large enough that we could make a difference in one little area of this dark and lost world? What are our expectations?

## AFRICAN MISSION

Editor's note — The following article is the first installment of an edited transcription of Elder Paul Stump's sermon at Englewood, Ohio, February 26, 1995, after returning from his missionary journey to Kenya.

Welcome to the service. This morning we are happy to be here. Praise the Lord! It does our hearts good to be back home. We were happy to be with the people over there, we told them so about every service.

I tell you, when we came home and sang these precious songs of Zion as we used to, I could have sung all morning. I love it. I think we need to praise God. I believe, in our own way, we need to praise God from the bottom of our hearts. Often when we praise God and sing these songs, we don't get the real meaning out of them until we fully comprehend what we are singing.

I believed those people over there when they were singing "There's Power in the Blood." That is one of their favorite songs. They just sing with their arms stretched out. There is POWER in the blood and I believe they mean it. I believe God hears their worship. I felt it, when I was over there. We had a wonderful experience when we were over there; one that we will cherish the rest of our days. Still, we are happy to be back. We are happy to be here. I don't know how much I shall say, this morning, but I want to share with you some of the things we experienced while we were over there.

We had a nice flight, both going and coming, for which we are thankful. We were met at the airport and taken to Sister Theresa's house in a pickup truck. It took about forty minutes to get there. The roads were bad. They have speed bumps over there. So you can't go fast, as some of those speed bumps are almost like going over a log. Sometimes the floorboards raised up as we went over them. It's a different way of life.

We had a comfortable home. They provided for us very, very well. We had modern conveniences, such as running water that was turned off ninety percent of the time. We were talking about water in Sunday School this morning and I tell you we don't know how precious water is to our life, until we are out of it. One morning we were getting ready to go to Mombosa. The water had been turned off as they hadn't got enough water carried in. We waited for our water to wash. It didn't come and it didn't come and it didn't come. Finally, what we did, we took a half glass of our drinking water, poured it out to wet a wash rag. We washed our faces and our bodies a little bit, combed our hair, and got ready to go, on a half glass of water! We had used, I suppose, in the six weeks we were there in Kenya, as much water as



some of you people use for one bath. We have a tendency to murmur and complain about conditions about us. I tell you, I believe it would be good to go to Africa for a little while and see the conditions the people there go through and how they are content with nothing! Absolutely nothing! Here we sit with our arms full and our mouths full, our freezers full, with beautiful homes and we forget God! I am convinced that we live too much at ease in Zion. We really don't know it. We don't realize it. We take all these things for granted. We take it upon our own selves, yet we have a tendency to forget God! Those people have nothing. We have talked to pastors over there, who are trying to pastor a small church, getting a little band of believers together, to worship the Lord. They have nothing. They can't get a job. There are no jobs available. They are very poor and most people can't find a job.

The first two weeks were pretty rough, but we enjoyed it. It was hard to get used to the environment. We seemed so isolated as we had to go eight or ten miles to the post office for the mail. No telephone. If you wanted to make a call you had to go uptown to the Communications Building. You had to stand in line. It took an hour and a half to send a Fax. Here in America, we push the buttons and about that quick the Fax is through. It's a different way of life.

We did experience a little homesickness. I don't know if any of you ever did or not. It's not so terrible painful, but its heart rending. About the fifth morning, when we woke up, Mary was sobbing, "I'm homesick!" I thought, "Lord, help us. We have a long ways to go!" She said, "I'll be alright," and she was. So we got along pretty well. We were looking forward to mail from home. We got mail one day, fourteen pieces in all. I want to thank you for the mail you sent. Your cards and prayers, we appreciated it all. The first letter we got from home was a letter from Shirley. We were so glad to get it. Mary started reading it; read one sentence and she broke down and cried, waited a little bit and tried again, read a little and broke down again. She said, "Here, you read it." I took it and started reading and you know, I broke down and cried. We were so glad to hear from home. It was touching, especially when we got the letters from people, who said, "We are praying for you!" "There are many prayers going up for you." It was really a touching experience, wetting my pillow with tears, not because I was homesick, but because of joy, of the situation over there, conditions in Kenya, Africa. How they are trying to serve the Lord. It just all went through my mind. Our mission was to go over there to find someone interested in preaching God's Word,



according to the principles of the Dunkard Brethren Church as understood in the New Testament. That was our desire and God opened up the way. God, Oh, God, I thank you. Everything is opening up. And so I shed many tears of joy and tears of concern, also.

As I say this, I was thinking about the little boy in the street. The first time we went uptown to get some money exchanged, as we crossed the street, a little boy came up to me. His arms were so thin, with pitiful eyes, he said, "Sir, please give me a shilling." I looked down at him and smiled. I didn't have a shilling. I had hundreds of shillings, but not A shilling. I had a big denomination as I had just come from the bank. Theresa was with us. She put her hand on his head, told him something and patted him. The boy looked up again and said, "Please give me a shilling, I'm hungry!" You know we walked across that street and I looked back and there stood the little boy, watching us go. Oh, My Lord, My God, I never helped that boy. So our hearts went out to situations like that.

We had many touching experiences, but the experience of a life time that we will cherish the rest of our days. We learned to eat different things. We went over there to be with the people to win their hearts. We figured that we couldn't win their hearts if we couldn't be with them. We lived with them, ate with them, prayed with them and worshipped with them. Let me tell you that we were received as royalty. We didn't deserve half the honor and the royalty they bestowed upon us.

To be continued

Transcribed by Sister Maxine Surbey

## **THE SEA OF GALILEE**

The Sea of Galilee is a very beautiful body of water. Arriving over a windy, hill-topped road, as you descend, you have a panoramic view of the city of Tiberias. Tiberias borders on the sea of Galilee.

This Biblical body of water is identified by several names. In Matthew 4:18 and Mark 7:31 it is called the sea of Galilee. In Luke 5:1 it is identified as the lake of Gennesaret. In Joshua 12:3 and Numbers 34:11 it is named the sea of Chinnereth. In John 21:1 it is identified as the sea of Tiberias. Some writers refer to it as a sea, others as a lake.

The sea is shaped like a pear, the widest end being toward the north. The Jordan River flows through the sea of Galilee. The sea lies six hundred feet below the Mediterranean Sea.

The sea of Galilee is definitely Biblical water. It is the setting for many teachings and miracles of our Beloved Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. I will refer to a number of them.

After Jesus' resurrection, the disciples were nonplused. When the disciples were together, Peter said, "I go a fishing." They agreed to accompany him. They fished all night and caught nothing. In the morning, a voice from shore (Jesus') asked, "Have you any meat?" They answered, "No." Jesus answered, "Cast your net on the other side of the boat." They did. They counted one hundred fifty-three fish.

At the same time, Jesus had a fire burning and prepared some of their catch and said to them, "Come and dine." Would, we could have been served by Jesus? If we live true and obedient to God's Holy Word we will be invited to the Marriage Supper of the Lamb. Revelation 19:7.

Matthew 17:27. Regarding paying taxes, Jesus told Peter, "Catch the first fish, open its mouth, there you will find a coin. Pay your taxes and mine."

In Matthew 4:18-22 we have an interesting lesson. Jesus was walking by the sea of Galilee. He saw Peter and Andrew, brothers, casting their nets to catch fish. Jesus made this statement, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." They immediately left their nets and followed Him.

When He called others to be His disciples, they too followed Him without question. Is the human race today willing to leave the world and follow Jesus? I am afraid the truthful answer is "No."

Much more could be mentioned about Christ and the sea of Galilee. Suffice it to say, the sea of Galilee was the setting for many of the experiences of the disciples.

In closing, we have recorded in Matthew 8:23-27 that Jesus and His disciples encountered a great tempest in crossing the sea. They feared for their lives. Jesus caused a great calm. Read and study the above scriptures.

Just as Jesus abated that tempest, He can bring peace of mind to the sinner if he will continually call on Jesus.

The late Brother Paul R. Myers

## **ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE SHEPHERDS...**

A boy had a deep, insatiable love for baseball. As a little boy, he frequently toted a toy bat and plastic ball. During grade school days, he took advantage of every opportunity to play catch. In Junior High School, he became the star player. His way through college was paved by his ability in this sport. After graduation he was drafted by a professional club. After a short stint in the minor league, he made it to the big league. Today he is finding his feelings on the sport have changed. While he is financially secure and revered by his fans, he is

troubled...the game, he once played on the strength of desire, is now performed out of duty.

I give you this story to illustrate that like this ball player, many church leaders find themselves fulfilling their obligations but without the passion that once fired them. The same Bible that was once read with a sense of delight is now merely an occupational tool. There is a scholarly determination but also a faltering spiritual devotion. Prayer has given way to worries and the church leaders fall victim to profession without passion.

A minister must keep alive the flame of his love for Christ. He must be ever growing in his communion with the Savior. How is this possible? How can one avoid the lapse into lukewarmness?

First of all, a minister may feel the need to build a significant work. The pressure of being impressive can become overwhelming. That can lead to a ministry out of focus. The remedy is to remember that in God's perspective, who the man is becoming is more important than what the man is doing.

Those who are called to preach must always approach the Scriptures with a commitment to accuracy. It is noble to desire that the congregation be challenged by the sermon, but it is especially imperative that the minister has himself been changed by the study.

Church leaders often worry about offerings and attendance. The program seems to outstrip prayer and dedication to the work. There is always the danger of wrong priorities because of the pressures of the job.

To stay spiritually fresh, church leaders desperately need the fellowship and admonition of their peers. It demands honesty and the willingness to accept another's counsel.

Young Brethren, I write this especially to you, as you aspire to the ministry or if you are already in the ministry. If you have allowed the pressure of ministerial obligations to make your heart callous, the demands of duty to snuff out the joy of your relationship with the Lord, you, like the boy with the bat and ball, may need to go back to the beginning. In childlike faith re-develop your ministry on a profound, yet, simple affection for God. Get back to basic motivations for serving Him in this capacity.

Brother Len Wertz

### **I SET MY FACE UNTO THE LORD**

"And I set my face unto the Lord God, to seek by prayer and supplications, with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes:" Daniel 9:3.



Let us look at the ninth chapter of Daniel and see how a godly man looked into the scriptures and obeyed God. This was not someone who pointed fingers at the other man. He had begun to read the Word in earnest, and discovering that Jeremiah's prophecies concerning Israel were soon to be fulfilled he began to seek the face of God concerning His people. Thankfully, though Daniel was what most church people would classify as a "good" man, he prayed thus:

(Verse 5) "We have sinned, and have committed iniquity, and have done wickedly, and have rebelled, even by departing from thy precepts and from thy judgments:"

Daniel included himself right in there with those sinful old Israelites. He did not arch his back and say, "We have Abraham for our father" or some other self-righteous slogan, but he being part of the family of God, was also a partaker of their sins, and he knew it.

Daniel continues, "O Lord, to us belongeth confusion of face - because we have sinned against thee. To the Lord our God belong mercies and forgivenesses, though we have rebelled against him." (verse 8-9)

Confusion of face is shame. Daniel was ashamed for himself and his people. He prayed with fasting and with sackcloth and ashes, knowing that though Israel was wayward, and had departed from God, Daniel served a God of mercies and forgivenesses (notice the plural). The only way the church of today will be revived is if we, collectively, get on our knees and say, "We have sinned." We must seek the face of God continually in our lives, and not pray like the Pharisee who said, "Thank God I am not like other men," but instead, "God have mercy on me, a sinner."

Many ask, should a person many years in the church, perhaps even with an office, pray, "God be merciful to me a sinner?" That person can and should pray that way. We all worry about our reputations, and what people will think of us, rather than being honest before God. When we are being honest before God, He can use us to His glory and not before. Daniel set his face before Almighty God. Do we?

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## **FULL OF THE HABITATIONS OF CRUELTY**

Psalms 74:18-20, "Remember this, that the enemy hath reproached, O Lord, and that the foolish people have blasphemed thy name. O

deliver not the soul of thy turtledove unto the multitude of the wicked: forget not the congregation of thy poor for ever. Have respect unto the covenant: for the dark places of the earth are full of the habitations of cruelty."

We are fully persuaded that the enemy of our soul has deceived the multitudes and brought reproach upon the name of our Lord. The foolish people who have fallen victim to the lies of Satan have blasphemed His name.

Probably the greatest area of deception within the earthly church lies within the truth of the two covenants. We may not fully comprehend the mind of God in this area, but we are called to obey even if we do not completely understand. To have respect for the Old Testament, the old covenant, does not mean that we are to live under its rules and regulations. Even under the old covenant, where God not only allowed Israel to go to war and destroy men, women and children but actually commanded it, the Psalmist has concern about the habitations of cruelty. It would appear that this was not an outside enemy that concerned the Psalmist. For in verse 4 of this Psalm we read, "Thine enemies roar in the midst of thy congregations; they set up their ensigns for signs." Is it any wonder that the Psalmist was concerned that God had forgotten His covenant with Israel?

The psalmist's words take on an even greater meaning when viewed in the light of the New Testament. "O deliver not the soul of thy turtledove unto the multitude of the wicked." The turtledove (usually called, merely, a dove in our day) is a sign of peace. Bishop Ernest J. Swalm in his book, "Nonresistance Under Test", shared the following historical data.

"This early church stood by this doctrine (nonresistance) and sponsored it. History tells us that from 60 A.D. to 170 A.D. not a single Christian was known to have enlisted in the army. Later a soldier who professed Christianity was not given communion until he did penance. But we see a change in the Fourth Century when, under Constantine, the Church and the State were united, and the State dominated and controlled the Church. Thus the standards were changed, and military service was held as an exclusive privilege for Christians only. Pagans were not allowed to join the army. Since that time, more or less, the Church has strutted down the centuries with the sword in one hand and the cross in the other, thus failing to realize the distinct separation that God expects of the Church and State."

Thus it became that patriots were considered true Christians and

nonresistant followers became the outcast. Somewhere along the line this took an even stranger twist. Christians were not only called to defend their country with military might but were called to overthrow the rule of government over them in the name of religious freedom! We have never understood how the American revolution was considered (and continues to be so) an issue of freedom of religion. Even if this were true it would not change Romans 13, I Timothy 2:2 and I Peter 2:17. The fact of the matter is the problem was taxation without representation, not religious freedom. The Bible has something to say about this also. Romans 13:6-7, "For this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing. Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour."

Today this spirit of rebellion has revived (or perhaps it never really died). So called "Christian" groups are calling for the overthrow of our present government. Terrorism and destruction are the trademarks of these groups.

Most Christians would not be a part of blowing up a building full of innocent people, including children. The seeds of unrest and demonstration against government are what bring such things into full bloom. Let us stand fast in the truth of our Lord Jesus Christ and stand for peace in a time when the dark places of the earth are full of habitations of cruelty.

Brother James M. Hite  
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Palmyra, PA 17078-2704

## **SIXTY YEARS AGO**

June 15, 1935

### **THE WORD OF GOD GREW AND PREVAILED**

J. H. Beer

(Acts 19:13-20.) It's a happy time in a soul, it's a happy time in a family, it's a happy time in the church, and it's a happy time in the country, when the word of God grows and mightily prevails. It's a happy time when open sinners are seen leaving their sins and seeking their Savior. It's a happy time when men are giving up their sins; when saloon keepers are taking down signs and burning them, and when they give up their licenses, it's a happy time when card players throw away their cards and take the Bible instead; it's a happy time when lovers of gaudy dress take their adornments and replace them with modest apparel. (I Tim. 2:9, I Pet. 2:3-4.)



When the leaven of the gospel begins to work, there will be no need of a train of arguments to prove how inexpedient, how utterly unworthy it is for a Christian to turn aside after the amusements and trifling things of the world. Those who first trusted in Christ, were willing to forsake all and follow Him. The grace of the gospel produces a new taste-it alters everything about us, our friends, our pursuits, our books, no other proof in our lives will equal that which is seen in it's practical effect on the lives of others. Will you who read this message see to it that you purge yourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and be led by the Holy Spirit.

(Acts 19:18-20.) This scripture is given in support of the prevailing power of the gospel against opposition, past triumphs of the gospel should give present encouragement, that we too shall see the word of God grow and prevail and the victories may be expected to be the same, men, magic, books and the love of money shall be subdued. Speaking of the Spirit, (John 16:8), and when He the Spirit is come, He will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment to come. Perhaps you say the gospel is not stirring people today as it did in Paul's day. The trouble is not that the gospel has lost its power to stir, but the manifest weakness of the men who claim to be ambassadors for Christ. In the days of the Apostles, a bold ministry proclaimed and defended the truth they were not guilty of preaching non-essentials and compromising the gospel to suit the masses. A bold ministry proclaimed and defended the truth, and opposition was aroused, this is always a needful sign.

God is not at work long without the devil working also. Deceitful counterfeiting was commenced, and was speedily ended in the most remarkable manner, see verse 14, there were seven sons of one Sceva, Paul preached, pleaded, made the gospel to sound forth, and on departing said I am free from the blood of all men.

Read the following chapter, and see how three years were spent in planting the church at Ephesus. So mightily grew the word of God, the measure of it was seen first in a church with a number of faithful Elders, (second) in a neighborhood fully aware of the presence of the gospel among them, for it touched them practically; so much that, important trades were affected and a people openly confessing their sins, in their conversion. Here we see Paul's work and God's work. Paul labored diligently in planting, and God made it grow, yet it was all of God.

Is the word of God growing among us, if not why not? It is a living seed, and should grow, and will grow unless we hinder it. (The word of God prevailing.) Growth arouses opposition; but where the word

grows with inward vitality it prevails over outward opposition. The sin being exposed, it was confessed by those who had been guilty, and by those who had commenced its study, and being confessed it was renounced altogether. Nothing is more needed today for the advancement of Christ's kingdom, than faithful ministers and Elders who are willing to stand four square on the gospel, who through faith will deliver the message of him who is able to save men and women who are on the road to hell.

## **OUR SATURDAY NIGHT**

Closing the Door Behind Him

J. H. Moore

It was the first and only love feast Judas ever attended. He had been with the Master for more than three years. He was the trusted treasurer and steward of the little band of selected believers. He had heard Jesus preach hundreds of times, and such wonderful preaching no man ever heard before. Even the learned and gifted said, "Never man spake like this man." He had seen him perform scores of miracles, to the wonder and amazement of every beholder. He could not, it seems, help believing that his Master, as his disciples called him, was a supernatural being.

At the end of three years the little group of disciples, twelve in number, assembled with their leader in an upper room in Jerusalem. It was probably on Thursday evening, in the early part of April. A memorial meal had been spread upon the table, around which the thirteen had gathered. The curtains were down and the door was closed. The Master, to the amazement of his disciples, girded himself with a towel, poured water into a basin, and washed and wiped the feet of each of them. This was a religious service which they could not at that time understand. It was the first love feast for all of them. Then followed the Lord's supper, a meal that had been prepared for this special evening. It was the last meal that the Son of God ate with his followers while in the flesh.

Near the close of this sacred meal Jesus astonished his disciples by what he said to Judas. Judas understood it, but the others did not. He arose, turned his back upon the Lord's table, walked out of the room, closed the door after him and disappeared. The Christian world knows the fate of that man. His action threw a shadow over the quiet little meeting. Each of the remaining disciples wondered what it meant. Why should Judas leave the room in the midst of the feast? Why should he walk out and close the door after him? That door was closed, nevermore to be opened by the man who had turned his back



on the Lord's table. In vain they looked for the door to swing on its hinges, but the man never returned. Satan had entered into him, and he went to his doom.

A few minutes later Jesus blessed the bread representing his broken body, and gave it to his disciples to eat. They ate it with sad forebodings of some mysterious fate awaiting their Master. The cup was passed in like manner. But Judas was not there. He alone of the twelve had been captured by Satan and led to his destruction. During the night he betrayed his holy Master, and before the ending of another day he closed his unfortunate life at the end of a rope. Such was the fate of the man who dared to turn his back on the Lord's table. Such was the end of the man who left the society of the saints, walked out of the room and closed the door behind him. Such was the doom of the man who permitted Satan to enter his heart and lead him astray. Better for that man had he never been born.

And so it is with those who do not keep their hearts bolted against Satan. If Satan once enters the heart of the believer, as he entered the heart of Judas, his doom is sealed. He will be induced to leave the society of holy people, to leave the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, to turn his back upon the Lord's table and all the sacred institutions belonging to the house of God, to walk out of the church, close the door behind him, and disappear in the sinful world. Sad indeed is the fate of such a man.

## **FOLLOWERS OF CHRIST**

God has given us a gift, a gift of Salvation by faith in Him who died for each of us. If we are followers of Christ we, each one, need to reach out and seek the lost and do all we can to win them for Christ. Are we using the talents that Christ has given us, or are we letting others do the work? I am sure every one has some talent, whether great or small. Are we hiding our talents? I am sure if every one were using the talents the Lord gave them more people would be in the Church and serving the Lord.

We see so many out in the world who do not know Christ and do not realize what it means to have a life with our Blessed Lord. Do we ask others to come to church? Do we try to provide a way for someone we know who does not attend any church? Many churches in our town have a group who calls people to offer them a way to church. I get calls from other churches all the time, some times as many as three a week, wanting me to come to church and they will pick me up. Why can not we also call and invite others to come to



church? Why should there be only two people in a large car, when it could be full?

In some churches people with talents are not allowed to use them. Who is going to pay? God did not give us a talent to hide it but use it to honor and glorify Him.

Oh, the harvest is ready, but no one seems to have time to bring in the sheaves. May God help us to work now, for soon time will be no more. How sad it will be, when so many are lost.

Sister E. M. Alltus

## OBITUARY

### PAUL R. MYERS

Elder Paul R. Myers, born to Theodore and Cevilla Myers, February 27, 1904, passed away, May 18, 1995.

He was married on June 16, 1926, to Margaret E. Burky, who preceded him in death January 8, 1989.

He was installed into the ministry May 25, 1947.

He enjoyed doing evangelistic work over the Brotherhood.

He also had many varied jobs and hobbies.

He is survived by two sisters, Mildred Kreiner and Iona Allen and their families.

Funeral services were held at the Hecker Funeral Home in Uniontown, Ohio, May 22, 1995, by Elder Edward Johnson and Elder Harley Flory. Burial in Woods Cemetery in Uniontown with Elder William Carpenter concluding the service.

The family would like to thank everyone who were so faithful in remembering Paul with prayers, cards, letters and visits.

This was found in Paul's Bible after his death:

The Lord Jesus was the best taskmaster I ever worked for. He called me as a Deacon, Minister and Elder.

To fulfill His assignments, He provided safety in travel over many thousands of miles by air, by rail, by ship and by auto.

From my experience, I highly recommend that Christ should come first in each of our lives, for His rewards are beyond explanation.

Paul R. Myers

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## **ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR JULY 1995**

July 2 - Water From The Rock; Amalek - Exodus 17:1-16.

1. What and who does God use today to provide Spiritual water in the wilderness of life?
2. Explain the meaning of the name Moses gave to the altar, Jehovahnissi.

July 9 - Moses and Jethro - Exodus 18:1-27.

1. Explain the priesthood of Jethro.
2. Explain the leadership chain of command which Moses set up. Was it of God?

July 16 - Moses In The Mount - Exodus 19:1-25.

1. What was God's Promise to His people, contingent upon their obedience to Him?
2. Of what importance is sanctification of God's people today?

July 23 - The Ten Commandments - Exodus 20:1-26.

1. Name the commandments that speak of our relationship to God.
2. List the commandments concerning relating to our fellow man.

July 30 - Judgments - Exodus 21:1-17.

1. How should our commitment to Christ compare with that of the Hebrew manservant to his master?
2. Why did smiting or cursing father or mother carry the death penalty?

## **YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR JULY 1995**

July 2 - Come Unto Me - Isa. 55:1, Matt. 11:28-30, Luke 14:17, Rev. 22:17-19

1. What is the yoke Christ said we must take?
2. Explain the burden which Christ referred to as light.

July 9 - Healing Of The Blindman - John 9:1-41.

1. Explain the part of obedience in the blindman's healing.
2. How did the blind man share his faith with the Pharisees?

July 16 - Feet Washing - John 13:1-19.

1. Why did not Peter want Christ to wash His Feet?
2. Explain the symbolism in feet washing.

July 23 - Anointing - Mark 6:12-13, James 5:13-18.

1. Name two things anointing is symbolic of in the Bible.
2. Explain the importance of prayer in anointing the sick.

July 30 - The Phillipian Jailer - Acts 16:23-40.

1. What things indicated to the jailer that Paul and Silas had the answer to His Question, "What must I do to be saved?"
2. Why had not Paul and Silas revealed to the magistrates that they were Romans before they were beaten and imprisoned?

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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXXIII

JULY 1, 1995

NO. 13

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## AT SET OF SUN

If we sit down at set of sun  
And count the things that we have done,  
    And counting, find  
One self-denying act, one word  
That eased the heart of him who heard,  
    One glance most kind,  
That fell like sunshine where it went,  
Then we may count the day well spent.

But if through all the livelong day  
We've eased no heart by yea or nay;  
    If through it all  
We've nothing done that we can trace  
That brought the sunshine to a face,  
    No act most small  
That helped some soul, and nothing cost,  
Then count that day as worse than lost.

-Anonymous



## TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND MY NEIGHBOR'S GOOD

This motto should remind us to have a purpose in our lives. Daniel had a purpose when he was taken into captivity. He was determined he would not defile himself by eating the king's meat. He stood by his purpose and was greatly blessed and promoted by God. During Jesus' earthly ministry, He had a purpose. He came to do His Father's will. He not only proclaimed the message of salvation, He also served the needs of the people.

This motto was used by the early Brethren. It indicated their devotion to God and their concern for their neighbors and Brethren. The Bible teaches a duty of worship. Each believer needs to reverence God, the Creator and Saviour of men. The Bible also teaches the concern believers should have, not only for their fellow believers, but for all others.

God wants to be magnified as the One above all others. Men need to see Him as the wisest and best. It is not only His goodness that may make men glorify Him. His vast power, unleashed in destruction and judgment, may also encourage men to look up to Him. Whatever inspires men to be in awe and admiration of Him will be turned to His glory.

Ephesians 4:1-16 gives a scriptural view of this motto. Three things are necessary to bring glory to God. They are: 1. right worship, 2. right doctrine, and 3. right living.

The worship of God consists of Christians continuously praising Him for all that He has done or wants to do in their lives. Included in the Christian's praise is his prayers. Prayer is an acknowledgment that there is One greater than ourselves. The One whom we seek to aid

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## THE BIBLE MONITOR

JULY 1, 1995

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us, physically, materially or spiritually, must be greater than ourselves. Otherwise we would not bow before Him in petition and humility. He must be acknowledged as the "one God and Father of all." It is through His goodness to us that we have our daily blessings. We must speak of the favors He has shared with us and praise His Name amongst mankind.

To glorify God, we must practise and believe what He has delivered as His Will in the Bible. Our teaching and practise must be in line with His expressed will. The ordinances given in His Word are not only for His glory but also for our Spiritual good. We are improved Spiritually by observing the ordinances and by believing His Word. Anytime a man is improved Spiritually, God is glorified. A man lifted by God out of his human, sinful ways is a glory to God. He is God's workmanship.

A Christian, desiring to glorify God, not only observes the ordinances, but lives righteously daily. Righteousness is right living. A Christian must regulate his lifestyle through self-discipline and Holy Spirit direction. A believer who does not live consistently with God's desired holiness will bring disrepute upon God. A Christian is called to live that God may be glorified.

Romans 15:2, "Let every one of us please his neighbor for his good to edification." This verse gives a Christian responsibility beyond his own life. It speaks of an influence upon others. Edification is building up someone else. We are to seek their good, especially their Spiritual good. If we help another materially or physically it may also bring Spiritual good into their lives.

There are three things that affect our neighbor's good. They are: 1. right worship, 2. right doctrine and 3. right living. The things that glorify God are for our neighbor's good, also.

Right worship aids another for it is an example for him. When he observes us worshipping and reverencing God, he may be inspired to do likewise. If he understands that we depend upon God rather than on ourselves, he may look above his worldly situation to God, just as we do.

If we wish to influence our neighbor to do good, we must set a true pathway before him. He needs to see the total picture of a life based on following all the New Testament teachings. If he does not see us yielded to the will of God, he may not realize his need to obey God impitiedly also.

Our neighbor must see our righteous lives. We can not expect him to be drawn toward God, if he can not see God living through us. If our righteousness does not exceed the righteousness of the world about us, there is little chance that he is going to respond to the

preached word.

To the glory of God and my neighbor's good is a motto. To be a true motto and not just empty words, it must be put into practise in each of our lives.

Is this motto a part of your life?

M.C.Cook

## **AFRICAN MISSION**

Continued from June 15, 1995 issue

They were thankful that white missionaries would come and live in their home as we lived with Theresa. There they could come into the home, visit and talk Scripture. What wonderful experiences we had. We went over there to spread the Gospel. The Gospel was very well received. The people over there are anxious and hungry for the Word of God. They have ministers and pastors over there who preach, but they need to be taught a little more. Theresa wanted to get the pastors together so we could speak to them. We did this the second day we were there. The first day was rest. We visited with the pastors. Their questions were, "What do you believe?" "What does the Dunkard Brethren Church stand for?" They were eager to know. I thought the best plan was to get the Polity Booklet and show them our standards. We started about 1:00 in the afternoon and some stayed until 8:00 in the evening, discussing the Scriptures and Polity Booklet and things like this. I was amazed at how eager they were to learn.

I asked if they had the communion. Yes, they had the communion. How about feet washing? No, we do not wash feet. I said, "Why not?" I said let us go to the 13th chapter of John. We read it and studied it together. I said, "Take notice, here is how Jesus did. How He rose from supper and laid aside His garments and took a towel and girded Himself and so forth. Then I read further, "If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them. As I have done unto you so do ye to one another." "Now," I says, "Why is that in there?" Finally one of the brethren said, "Brethren, it's Bible!" They were eager to learn. They were very receptive and they said they were going to start doing it. It is going to be a little hard for them, with their dirt floors, without tables and benches without backs. If you rock a little, you are going to upset. Anyway, they were very eager to learn.

We had a discussion of headship and the prayer veil. They said some sisters did not cover their heads anymore because so many people who are non-Christian cover their heads. So they do not want to cover their heads anymore.

Now, I tell you, my dear people, we cannot hide behind other men's



sins. There is too much of that being done in our Church. We hide behind someone else's evil doings. The Bible says that is hypocritical. We should not do this. You know when a professor of the faith, does something wrong, it's wrong! That does not give us the authority to hide behind that sin. Maybe this is cutting a little close, but I have heard some say that they did not wear a plain hat or a plain coat because such and such a brother did a dirty deed and they do not want to be like him. We are not covered by someone else's sins, we need to be covered by the blood! That's what we need to be covered by — the blood of the Lamb.

It will take a lot of teaching over there. The women, who speak in Church, give wonderful testimonies. We heard Sister Theresa preach one time. We went over there to see how they do. We did not go over there to force them to do our way. We went to teach them and to see what they were doing. My goal was to go over there and live a life that they would want what we have.

We took our song books along. We took our song books out in Theresa's home to see if they knew any of the songs. We and a couple of Brethren started to sing one Sunday afternoon. We sang about all afternoon, one song after another. They knew these, "Power in the Blood," "Count your Many Blessings," "What a Friend We Have In Jesus" and on and on. After singing one of the songs, I just don't remember which one it was, one of the brethren said, "Wow!" He was happy, you know. He was rejoicing that he could sing with us. They don't have the money for song books. They are too expensive to buy so they just sing by heart. They sing, "There is Power in the Blood," "What Can Wash Away My Sins," "Yes, God is Good." They repeat a lot.

Every person in Kenya, knows three languages, at least, and some know as many as twenty. There are fifty different languages in Kenya, alone. When they get together to worship and start praying, they pray in English, Swahili, and perhaps two or three other tongues.

How they pray! They just pray and pray and pray! I prayed for everyone I could think of and prayed and thanked God for everything and they were still praying. I was wondering, "How can these people pray like this?" They pray as if they are talking to God. My mind was drawn to our services at home in America. We, as a Dunkard people, pray just as if we went into a closet to pray. I am not condemning that. When we pray we stick our heads down in the corner of the bench and mumble a few words. Now, I'm not condemning anyone's prayers. Don't get me wrong. I just wonder what is right? We realize this must come from the heart. They are a very expressive people and when they pray they really pray.

It made tears run down my cheeks when they prayed for us. They started praying for us before we came. When we got there, we told them we had a wonderful flight, just no turbulence at all. They said, "Well, you weren't supposed to, we were praying for you!" Can you imagine that? They were praying for a good flight. Before we had made preparations to come home, I don't think that we were there three weeks yet, they were already praying for our safe return. They prayed that the blood of Jesus Christ would be spread along the way and over the plane. They prayed for our family, for our children and grandchildren. They prayed for the church, here. They kept on praying. My! My! Why can't we get a little more excited about the Lord? We need to think along these lines.

As I was discussing Scripture with them, there were different things that they accepted. We were talking about plainness. We covered almost everything. I won't go into detail. I told them why I dress as I do. I told them we feel that neckties should not be worn, because it's an unnecessary appendage. What is it good for anyway? "Your coat is a lapel coat so a necktie looks nice." "Would a necktie look nice on my coat?" That is one reason why we chose this type of coat, to discourage the wearing of a necktie. It's a mark of separation. And don't you know, they accepted it. Generally, not fully. Right away they were ready to listen. The next time they came back, a lot of the neckties were gone. They were off. They were eager to learn. They were ready to accept what was taught.

One Brother came back the next morning. He said, "Bro. Paul, I like what I see. This is what I want. I want to preach the Dunkard Doctrine." He is a young man, twenty-five years old, ready to graduate from college March 29. He will go back to Uganda, a neighboring country. He wants to preach the Word. His parents were killed in the war when he was two years old. He was an orphan, a refugee. He went to Kenya and received a scholarship. He wanted to become a preacher. So he is going to graduate. He wants to preach the Dunkard Brethren Doctrine. Then is when the tears started running down my cheeks. "Lord, thank you for opening up the doors." This is what I was looking for. No honor for myself. That was my purpose for going to Kenya — to find someone to carry on the work before we came back home.

The week before we came home I had quite a number of sessions with him. We were discussing church work. I asked him, "Godfrey, are you willing to teach all the doctrines of the Dunkard Brethren Church?" "Yes," he said, "I am." "Are you willing to not wear the necktie?" He said, "Bro. Paul, I got rid of my neckties. I want to dress like you do." So I said, "Do you really want to dress like I do?" And he said, "Yes." He was built about my size. I took my coat off and put



it on him to see how it would fit. He looked in the mirror and smiled and said, "I like that!" They have a desire to change. I told him that if he liked it, he could have it. So I gave him my suit. To make a long story short, I left two suits over there. I had a concern for these people. I had a couple more suits at home, why should I not share with them? They can have other suits made over like them.

To be continued

Transcribed by Sister Maxine Surbey

## **A VISION FOR AFRICA**

Proverbs says it well, "Without a vision, the people perish." As we approach the Twenty-First Century, a vision for reaching Africa for Christ, with Church planting is needed across the continent, by both clergy and laity of the Dunkard Brethren Church. To keep up with the population demographics in our continent, Africa, hundreds of new churches must be pioneered in the coming decade by the Dunkard Brethren Mission in Africa, especially Uganda. This presents a great challenge that must be addressed in order to ensure the long-term viability of the Dunkard Brethren Church message and ultimately, the growth of God's Kingdom. Such a vision for Africa has been motivated by Paul and Mary Stump during their first missionary trip to Africa in Kenya.

On the foundations laid by the Stumps while in Africa, the Dunkard Brethren Mission in Kampala, Uganda, has been raised here in Africa. The vision was shared among us (Africans) and personally responded to, to carry it on. The Lord brought Paul and Mary Stump as the scripture reads in Acts 8:26-40.

"The Angel of the Lord led Philip to the Ethiopian Eunuch and the gospel of Christ was spread through him." The Dunkard Brethren Church Mission launched the first Sunday Service on April 2, 1995, in Kampala, Uganda, Africa. We had twenty-two adults and five children in the first fellowship of the Dunkard Brethren Church in Africa.

Let it be known to all, the (Dunkard Brethren Church), that the Lord has opened up a Mission in Africa this year, 1995, as a result of our Elder and his wife, Paul and Mary Stump. The work is growing and Africans are excited about it. We are happy to have the Mission begin for the purpose of reaching our fellow Africans with God's Word, and the message of Salvation. It is our prayer, vision and plan with a target to make the Dunkard Brethren Mission known, by establishing branches in many countries of the African continent.

However, the success of the Dunkard Brethren Mission to meet her demands and make it a reality will depend on your prayer support, encouragement and direct involvement where possible.

Godfrey Kiiza

Kampala, Uganda



## ACCOUNTABILITY

II Thessalonians 3:17, "The salutation of Paul with mine own hand, which is the token in every epistle: so I write."

At my place of employment accountability is very important. Strict and careful records are kept. Every job is assigned to a certain person to perform. We either sign our name or our initials to show that we did the job. That way, if someone says the task was not performed, we can go back to the record and prove that it was done.

Accountability is also important to God. The scriptures say that we will give an account for every deed done in the body. We will or will not be welcomed into the Kingdom of Heaven depending upon whether or not our sins are under the blood of the Lord Jesus. If the blood is not atoning for our sins then we are accountable for them and deserving of the punishment, specified.

The Apostle Paul thought it was important to put his name to the epistles he wrote, for two reasons. First, his name would probably add weight to what was written, because Paul was a well respected, powerful and influential man of God. Secondly, Paul believed in accountability. The person who wrote the epistle was also responsible for its contents.

In my writing experience I have never seen an editor accept an unsigned article. There are many reasons for this, but primarily accountability is the most important. If we write an article that is printed and distributed, we are then responsible for the article, though the publication must be single-minded and God-honoring and bear responsibility for what truth lies therein. Writers must be careful there are no underlying motives in the articles they write. They must not aim their writing at certain people or work towards the alienation of certain people. We must be motivated by our love for the church and the Brethren, and we must allow the Holy Spirit to affect change in people. Our work must reflect our love for the Lord and our desire to uplift and honor Him.

Not too long ago I received in the mail a note signed, "A Brother." It was difficult to read, but what I could make out expressed criticism of an article I had written. I could not tell what article was being referred to, since the brother did not mention it, and since he did not sign it, I could not write back to inquire. It is important to be able to communicate. Most problems in the Church could be more easily solved if communications were more open. If the Brother would have signed the paper, perhaps, I could have helped to quell any misunderstanding that he had. Perhaps we could have cemented a friendship.

Brother Lynn H. Miller  
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Newmanstown, PA 17073

## ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

### How to Study the Bible

There is nothing more enjoyable than studying God's Word. Yet, the thought of it seems to turn some people off. As a result they quake with guilt instead of tremble with eagerness.

To study the Bible, it must be read first! That may sound too obvious, but quite frankly, that is where many people fail. Too many Christians are content with a second-hand knowledge of the Word. They read books ABOUT the Bible instead of studying the Bible for themselves. Books are good, but collateral reading can never replace the Bible itself.

There are a lot of Bible reading plans available today but lets consider some things that may help in making this the awesome experience it should be. First, read through the Old Testament. Yes, the Old Testament! Note in the margins any truths you particularly want to remember and write down anything you do not seem to understand. Sometimes these questions will be answered later in the text itself. The questions, that you cannot find answered, can become starting points for more in-depth study, later.

Now, read the New Testament. Consider reading one book repetitiously for a month or so. Begin with a short book such as I John and read it through in one sitting every day for a month. At the end of that time, you will know what is in the book. You will also develop a visual perception of the full book and see the bigger picture of the writer.

Divide longer books into short sections and again read each section daily for up to a month. The Gospel of John contains twenty-one chapters. If you read seven chapters each day for a month, you will finish it in ninety days.

Always keep this question in mind, "What does this mean?" It is important to understand meanings before applications can be made.

In interpreting the Bible, there are several gaps that have to be bridged. First, there is the language gap. The Bible was written in Greek, Hebrew and Aramaic. Understanding the meaning of a word or phrase in original language can be the key to correctly interpreting a certain passage of Scripture. You might want to have an Expository Dictionary near by.

Second is the culture gap. Some people try to use cultural differences to explain away the more difficult biblical commands. Do not fall into that trap. Realize that we must first view Scripture in the context of the culture in which it was written but understand, too, that it is written to all generations.

The geography might be a third gap. Biblical geography makes the



Bible come alive. A good Bible atlas helps here. Of course, nothing helps like seeing the land first-hand if that is a possibility open to you.

Bible history is the last gap. An understanding of Bible history will help us place the people and events in their proper historical perspective.

There are four principles that can guide you in interpreting the Bible. First, **THE SCRIPTURE SHOULD ALWAYS BE UNDERSTOOD IN THE LITERAL SENSE**. While the Bible does contain some figures of speech and symbols, they are intended to convey literal truth.

Second, you will need to interpret Scripture in its historical context.

Third, the grammatical structure of each sentence is important. What is the tense of the main verb? To whom do the pronouns refer?

Finally, remember this principle. **THE BIBLE DOESN'T CONTRADICT ITSELF**. If you arrive at an interpretation that contradicts a truth taught somewhere else in the Word, your interpretation is not correct.

Now comes the major challenge. You must **APPLY THE BIBLE**. Bible study does not stop with the procedures of study. Your goal must be to let it speak to you and enable you to grow spiritually. The study is not complete until you ask yourself, "What does this mean for my life and how can I practically apply it?" If there is a command to be obeyed, you obey it! If there is a promise to be embraced, you claim it! If there is a warning to be followed, you heed it! Ultimately you must submit to Scripture and let it transform your life. If you skip this step, you will never enjoy Bible study and the Bible will not change your life.

Bible study is an obligation and a privilege. Let it bring you to maturity as a believer.

Brother Len Wertz

## **SOWING BESIDE ALL WATERS**

Isaiah 32:20a, "Blessed are ye that sow beside all waters."

The world is full of the "waters" of religion. There are those who believe that we should allow each individual to seek God in the way that seems the best for him. In place of sharing the truth of the gospel we are encouraged to interact and dialogue with those of various beliefs. By doing so we would deny these individuals their only hope for Heaven.

However, there are some "seeds" that bring forth tares rather than the desired harvest. These should be avoided at all cost. One of these is the seed of arrogance. We believe that when we become so "holy" that we can not speak to individuals without a superior attitude



we have lost our cause. Christianity is certainly superior to any other religion, but we do not believe that being a Christian makes a person perfect.

Another closely related seed is the seed of ridicule. We can not compromise the truth of Scripture but we do not believe that we must berate those with whom we are sharing the truth.

Taking these cautions into consideration, we believe Isaiah 32, starting at verse 13, has a message for us today. "Upon the land of my people shall come up thorns and briers; yea, upon all the houses of joy in the joyous city:" When we enter the "conservative" area of Christianity we have very little opposition to the fact that there is no way to God but through Jesus Christ. But the thorns of relativism have sprung up within the conservative body of Christ. Such things as modesty of dress, the wearing of jewelry, and hair styles for men and women are considered to be relative. Shorts are now considered to be modest in relation to "short shorts" and a bathing suit is considered modest in relation to a bikini and on it goes. A little jewelry is considered to be acceptable in relation to "overdoing it." Long hair on men is often judged in relation to how long a woman's hair is, which is judged in relation to how long a man's hair should be. This is a vicious cycle that ends up with each individual deciding what is "long" and what is "short."

The briers of political involvement, patriotism and self defense have compassed the "joyous city." These must be rooted out and replaced with the seed of truth.

"Because the palaces shall be forsaken; the multitude of the city shall be left; the forts and towers shall be for dens for ever, a joy of wild asses, a pasture of flocks; Until the spirit be poured upon us from on high, and the wilderness be a fruitful field, and the fruitful field be counted for a forest."

The palaces are representative of leadership. The grand eloquence of Holy Scripture has been replaced with the hovels of man's interpretations. Therefore the multitudes of the city of God are left without leadership. The forts and towers of divine truth, our safety, have been replaced with the dens of self understanding. The wild animals and flocks without shelter have joy in their "freedom," but they are without the protection, so badly needed.

When the Spirit is poured upon us from on high, and we are willing to listen, the wilderness becomes a fruitful field. The Holy Spirit will give the rain of blessing upon the seeds of truth we sow. This fruitful field will be counted for a forest. A strong bulwark and material for future building.

"Then judgement shall dwell in the wilderness, and righteousness

remain in the fruitful field." God's judgment and righteousness are very seldom accepted by "religious" man.

"And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever. And my people shall dwell in a peaceable habitation, and in sure dwellings, and in quiet resting places; When it shall hail, coming down on the forest; and the city shall be low in a low place."

Let us never be ashamed of our way of peace and quietness. When the hail of popular thought falls we can be secure in our assurance of the truth.

Let us sow beside all waters, sowing the truth of salvation through the blood of Jesus Christ as symbolized in trine immersion baptism. God will call us blessed in His sight.

Brother James M. Hite  
816 E. Birch St.  
Palmyra, PA 17078-2704

**SIXTY YEARS AGO**  
July 1, 1935  
**SIN AND REDEMPTION**  
Ida M. Helm

It is hard for man, morally dwarfed and warped as he is, to trust implicitly in the gracious God, and utter his praise as we should, for we all have sinned and come short of the glory of God.

He is good, He is glorious! In Him is all penetrating and diffusive light. He is the source of wisdom, knowledge, peace, holiness, happiness, love and life. Without Jesus what would man be? Religion would be an empty science as it is in pagan lands today, full of terror and despair and racked with realizing anticipation of future successive, substantial and endless misery and woe.

Everything that God created He pronounced good. Man was pure and sinless created in the image and likeness of God. Mankind took sin from the hand of Satan and blighted God's pure and lovely creation, filled men's hearts with cruelty, blasted human hopes, filled the centuries with corruption and crime, broke the heart of God's well-beloved Son and murdered Him.

Through sin man's inhumanity to man makes countless thousands mourn. Satan is powerful, he is crafty, he is a liar, he is lawless, he is a murderer. Man cannot chain him. Man can not legislate Satan and sin. The old man of sin can not be reformed, it must be crucified, dead and buried, and the new man in Christ Jesus must walk in

newness of life. Satan was conquered on Calvary.

The promised Messiah appeared in the time when Pilate was procurator of Judea, and he was rejected of men. If a blood-thirsty mob had taken Jesus out and crucified Him by force in some out of the way place His blood would not have atoned for our sins. He must be crucified in a legal way. He must go voluntarily to the cross. He must be brought before the Sanhedrin, the highest court of Jewish authority and there the sinless one, the one who was declared to be innocent, must have the death sentence pronounced upon Him. He must be taken before Pilate and Herod that the representatives of Rome, the world power may declare there is no fault in Him, He is innocent. There was no one to plead His case. All forsook Him and fled. He was doomed to death on the cross.

In the ancient world the cross was not eulogized as it is today. A crucified criminal, was in the sight of men, detested. He was cursed of God. Jesus had to stand in our place and bear the curse of sin or we would be under sentence of eternal death today. All the blood of every animal that was shed under the old ceremonial law could not take away one sin. Only the blood of the sinless Son of God had the efficiency to atone for sin.

The first Adam sinned and fell and the human race fell with him. Christ the second Adam was sinless, He over came Satan and temptation and in Him we can take refuge and be saved. The disobedience of the first Adam was met by the obedience of the second Adam.

Jesus became carnate that He might undo what the first representative did. He was slain, for the wages of sin is death. Great has been the ravages of sin, it measured mans years at 70. I John 1:8-9 says, "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us." No man ever was absolutely sinless and not in need of the application of the cleansing blood of Christ. "Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood." (Rom. 3:24-25.)

"Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him in baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life...our old man is crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin." (Rom. 6:3-4.)

We are not only to be dead with Christ, but we must rise with Him



to live in Him, if we would find rest for our souls.

Though the Christian be dead to the world, the world will not be dead toward the Christian. The world is at enmity with Christ and from it will issue deeds of ill will and hatred that will severely try the love and faith of the followers of Christ.

One the day of atonement the blood of the sacrifice was carried into the most holy place, while the flesh of the victim was not eaten but burned outside the camp. "Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate. Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach." (Heb. 13:12-13.) As if we were going forth with Him when He was led away to be crucified. He was led away as a malefactor, He was the object of scorn and contempt. He was taunted and reviled while He was on the way to the place of execution, and even on the cross.

Alas, how many there are who profess to love Him when religion subjects them to no reproach, but had they been present when He was led to execution would have shrunk back from following Him to Calvary. To be crucified with Christ today, follower of Christ must utterly renounce all worldly, carnal things, even though it entail scorn and contempt for Christ's sake.

Christ's resurrection meant endless life. He did not rise to die again. The Christian's baptism in the watery grave means a death and resurrection to life once for all. Not to live again to the world. Paul asks the question, "How shall we that are dead to sin live any longer therein?" When we die to sin we sever our connection with it. We put a virtual end to our sinful life. To live in Christ and Christ in us we must possess and practice all the truths taught in His word, thus we are children and heirs with Jesus Christ.

To not obey all the teachings of God's word is to live without God. The condemning power of sin is so great that it is utterly impossible for the best moral man that ever lived to save himself. Some of the men who crucified Jesus passed as moral men. Only those who live in Christ and practice all His teachings can appropriate to themselves the cleansing efficacy of the blood of Christ.

Jesus was rejected of men, He had no where to lay His head, He had nothing but a cross. In His will He bequeathed to each child of God a cross with the stipulation that he bear it daily after his Master. He promised, "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life." (Rev. 2:10.)

## NEWS ITEMS

### SHREWSBURY, PENNSYLVANIA

The Shrewsbury Congregation is looking forward to our Summer Revival Meetings. The Lord willing, Bro. Michael Wray from California plans to be with us from July 30 to August 6. Pray, come, worship, and fellowship with us. Pray for those who need the Lord in their lives.

Sister Fern Ness, Cor.

### SWALLOW FALLS, MARYLAND

The Swallow Falls, Maryland Congregation's annual ten day revival is planned to begin August 18, each evening at 7:30 with Bro. Rudy Shaffer as evangelist. Saturday, August 25, afternoon service at 3:30 P.M., Lovefeast at 7:00 P.M. and Sunday noon fellowship dinner.

Please come praying (we have room to accommodate you), and if you cannot come please do remember us at Swallow Falls in prayer as we are few in number and we definitely need to hold each other up in the perilous times we are facing now, and in the time of great trials and tribulations such as our earth has never experienced before.

Sister Ruth M. Snyder, Cor.

## IN APPRECIATION

To every member of our persuasion, from coast to coast, greetings.

On last November 29 I entered the hospital for the first knee replacement. Then again on April 25 for the second one.

I am coming along fine with much therapy. I am walking now with one cane.

Thanks to everyone for all the cards and gifts, and above all your many prayers in my behalf.

God bless you each.

Brother Harley Rush

### ENGLEWOOD, OHIO

Our 1995 Revival Meetings will begin July 22 and end July 29. If it is the Lord's guiding, Brother Galen Shelly will bring us the messages. We will be looking forward to all who can to join us.

Three more precious souls; Trisha Lengyel, Dan Westbrook and Doris Brock had requested baptism and committed their lives for the cause of Christ. May we hold them up in much prayer to protect them from this wicked world.

Sister Ruth Speicher, Cor.

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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXXIII

JULY 15, 1995

NO. 14

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## SUBMISSION

But that thou art my wisdom, Lord,  
And both mine eyes are thine,  
My mind would be extremely stirred  
For missing my design.

Were it not better to bestow  
Some place and power on me?  
Then should thy praises with me grow,  
And share in my degree

But when I thus dispute and grieve  
I do resume my sight;  
And, pilfering what I once did give,  
Disseize thee of thy right.

How know I, if thou shouldst me raise  
That I should then raise thee?  
Perhaps great places and thy praise  
Do not so well agree.

Wherefore unto my gift I stand;  
I will no more advise;  
Only do thou lend me a hand,  
Since thou hast both mine eyes.  
-George Herbert

## NOAH AND LOT

II Peter 2 shows the two sides of God's personality. On one hand we can see His severity and on the other His goodness. He is a God of wrath and a God of love. He judges and none can recall his sentence. His love provides the only escape from the judgment deserved by all. His love cost Him His Son. Jesus bore the sins of humanity on the cross, so we, individually, would not have to bear the judgment that sin deserved.

God has dealt with sin and rebellion many times. Even before creation, He had faced rebellion amongst the angels of Heaven. Under the leadership of Lucifer, a third of the angels had rebelled against God. God answered their rebellion with swift and terrible punishment.

After God created the earth, all continued in harmony until sin entered through the disobedience of Adam and Eve. Their fall brought sin's power upon men. The course of life deteriorated with sin becoming more prominent. Finally, a time came when God could abide no more. He was sorry He had created mankind. He was ready to destroy His creation. The only way to get rid of sin was to get rid of man.

In the midst of the darkness of sin, God found one man and his family who continued to serve Him. Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord. God did not destroy Noah for he was His only representative in a world full of sin. God gave Noah specific instructions, which must be carried out exactly as God gave them or they would not be of any benefit to him. During the time, Noah built the ark, he warned men of a coming judgment, but none were willing to listen or to join Noah and his family on the ark. That ark was lifted up and carried by the very waters that became the death of the

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**THE BIBLE MONITOR****JULY 15, 1995**

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others. God's judgment had included grace for Noah. He had followed God's precise instructions.

After the flood, the population of the earth began to multiply again. As the number of people grew, sin grew. The people became wicked again. The cities of Sodom and Gomorrah were particularly noted for their sinful activities involving illicit relationships. The men of these cities had a great desire for other men. The women preferred other women. In the midst of the city of Sodom lived Lot, Abraham's nephew. Lot had chosen the plain, when Abraham offered him the choice of the land. He had prospered materially but had failed Spiritually. There remained within him a small spark of the Spiritual, but he had become ineffective as a witness of God in this unrighteous city. He realized that the deeds of his neighbors were wicked. These things vexed him, but he seemingly did not have the strength to remove himself and his family from them.

When God had had enough of this carnal lifestyle, He warned Abraham what was in store. Abraham, because of his particular concern for Lot and his family, plead with the Lord to withhold His judgment if a certain number of righteous could be found there. After much seeking, not even five righteous could be found. The only ones who qualified were Lot, his wife and two unmarried daughters. When the time for destruction came, God sent angels to Lot's house to warn him to escape. Lot's ties to the city were too strong. He had married daughters, whose husbands were a part of the unrighteous population. He could not persuade anyone else to go with him. His influence for good was nil. As the destruction was about to begin Lot was forcibly led out of the city towards the mountains. Even as he was escaping, he continued to argue with God's plan for his escape and well-being. His wife looked back at those things that were important to her. She was turned into a pillar of salt. The daughters later showed the influence Sodom had had on them in their dealings with their father.

Lot escaped, but it was not in the wholehearted way that Noah had. Noah was a preacher of righteousness in the midst of a very wicked and doomed world. Lot had to be removed from Sodom for his own good. He did not have a righteous influence. Noah had his whole family on the ark. Though only eight people, they represented two generations. They would be able to repeople the earth. Lot could not bring his whole family out of Sodom.

God provided a way of escape for both Noah and Lot. Noah wholeheartedly followed the instructions God gave him. Lot continued to argue with the angels and God. He never gave in to God's direction without a fight.

Are there parallels between Noah and you? Are there parallels between Lot and you? Which one do you most resemble?

M.C.Cook



## AFRICAN MISSION

Continued from July 1, 1995 issue

I tried my suit on another pastor when we were in the "Bush." He says, "I want to look like you." He wanted me to send him a picture of him wearing my suit, so he could know how to make a coat like it. He said, "I think this is the way we ought to dress." I took the picture then. He was so tickled.

How easy it was to get these people to listen and to be obedient. Here, we preach and preach our heart out. We talk about worldliness coming in the Church and how we should shun these worldly tendencies. The more we preach, the worse it seems to get. What is the matter with us? Have you ever thought about that? I have thought about this since I was over there. Why is it so hard to get people to understand? It seems like too many times we feel the least we can do, the better we feel. I think we ought to see how much we can do for the Lord. That is the desire they have in Kenya. Doing for the Lord.

We visited many churches and had worship services. We spoke in two universities. At one university, there were over two hundred students who came out for the meeting that night. Those young people are desiring something. They need a little guidance. The text that I used was, "Christian Ethics in Business." They had in their minds that you cannot be in business and be a Christian. Which way should they pursue? Would they want to be business people or Christians? They had been trying to teach them that they can be honest in their business. That was the theme of the evening. So I spoke on that subject. You do not have to be crooked, when you are in business. You can run a business and run it honestly. Those students were just drinking it in. They are hungry for God's Word. We are glad to have found it so.

We are just rejoicing in the Lord, that they are willing to accept our teaching and to try to be like we are. It looks very, very promising. The seed is sown. There is a need for a watering to be done. We look for the Lord to water and bring a bountiful harvest.

I know a lot of you have been praying. We could feel it. We knew people were praying. Not only here, at Englewood, but all over the country and the Brotherhood. I know you were concerned for our safety. We were, too. But we were guarded. They guarded us with their lives very, very closely. We feel that things have turned out real well.

There is a lot of work needing to be done over there. A lot of

prayers are needed in behalf of Africa, if we expect the seed that is sown to grow. We encourage you to remember to pray. Keep on praying for the work in Africa. They need your prayers.

Their financial burden is more than they can bear. We have visited many churches. One time we were riding along out in the "Bush" when John says, "Bro. Paul, there is one of our churches." I said, "Where?" "Out there by that tree." Can you imagine that? It was just a little grassy spot about as big as this corner, here. There they would gather to worship. That's their church. We have a building like this with fans, lights, plastered walls, comfortable seats, plus about forty pillows here. I think I counted one time. Then we get tired going to church. When they go to church, they stand.

We were at another place, out in the "Bush", when John said that the Sister who lived at that place donated some land for a church here. He said that he wanted to take us up to see it. So we walked out back of the house. I thought we would see a church. When we got out there, you know what we saw? It was a skeleton of a building just made out of twigs, branches or limbs. Something like bamboo poles. He stood there and said that this was their church. He did not say that this is all we have. He said this is our church! I asked him what they did when it rains or when it is hot. "We have a bamboo rug that is put on the top to make a little shade. The Lord doesn't let it rain on our services." Can you imagine that? Here in America if it is a little cloudy and looks like rain or snow, we cannot go to church because it might be bad. Have you ever thought of that. We have a lot to learn, my dear people.

We want you to know that we are happy in what took place. We are satisfied that the Lord has opened up the doors to Africa. We trust that you will keep on praying and doing what you can for this cause. If the Lord lays it on your heart to go to Africa sometime, I encourage you to go. It's beautiful weather, there. God looks down upon His people there. I was made to think about one verse. In the book of Philippians, where Paul says, "I thank my God for every remembrance of you always in every prayer of mine for you, making request with joy." Phil. 1:3-4. As we were worshipping many times I would think of people back home, still sleeping. When we would go to bed over there you people were worshipping the Lord. How nice it is that the Lord can be worshipped at all times. We need to remember them in prayer. I know that they are offering prayers on our behalf right now. Being about seven or eight o'clock I feel there are prayers going up by those dear people for the Dunkard Brethren Church.

Being confident, "For your fellowship in the Gospel from the first day until now; Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ."

We trust that the work in Africa has been a good work. We know it has been a good thing. Now we trust that it will continue. We really solicit your prayers and your support, my dear people. Your financial support is needed to care for the people's needs over there.

I have to think of a missionary from India. He came over here and went to church down in Texas. That building that they showed him cost forty-two million dollars. He figured that such an amount would have built three hundred seventy-five thousand churches in India. Can you imagine that? Here in America we used that amount for one building! That is not the Church anyway. The Church is the people. I feel, we as a Dunkard people can go over there and build simple church houses that the people will be happy with. What do we have to be thankful for?

Pray for the work in Africa. May God bless you!

Transcribed by Sister Maxine Surbey

## **THE GOLDEN RULE**

Jesus, our Lord and Saviour, was the greatest teacher who ever graced the earth. He taught us how we should live our daily lives. He taught us how to prepare to receive that great reward, "Eternal Life."

In Luke 6:31, Jesus speaking, "And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise." This is a powerful teaching and Jesus meant that Christians obey it.

The headlines of today's papers indicate that the masses of people, worldwide, are ignoring this rule. Crimes of every description are being committed, in every phase of life, from poor people to those of highest authority in our land.

Stealing, robbery, cheating, killing, rape and arson are a partial list of the ways and means of disobeying the Golden Rule. Today, we can truthfully say, "We are living in a very criminal age." It will not get better. It shall get worse until Jesus comes.

Let us consider seriously the change that would take place, not only over America, but over the entire world if the Golden Rule were lived out.

Wars between nations would be no more. Nations would agree and peace would prevail, saving lives, and billions of dollars. It would also be obeying God's Word, "Thou shalt not kill." While on the subject of killing, if the Golden Rule were obeyed, abortions would be



a thing of the past.

If a day could be set when all people would abide by and practice the Golden Rule, we would be living in a safe, joyous and spiritual land, a little bit of Heaven. Our doors would need not be locked. Thousands of police, sheriffs, detectives, FBI agents, guards, and wardens would have to change employment. Lawyers would have to close their doors. Divorce courts and homes for battered women would be out of business.

Violation of the Golden Rule is an incurable disease and is crippling our nation Spiritually and financially. The highjacking of airplanes, bombing of buildings, and kidnapping would no longer make news head lines. Politicians would fulfill their promises that they made when they ran for office.

Homicides would be a thing of the past. Today they are very prevalent. Two people get in an argument and before it is over, one or the other is shot.

Mothers would not do away with new born babies. The list of crimes is endless.

If the Golden Rule were obeyed, children would honor their fathers and mothers much more than they do today according to the newspapers. Children would not be stealing money from their parents. They would not disobey, nor would they kill them.

Parents likewise would be more considerate of their children.

Abiding by the Golden Rule would change hate to love. It would change a dishonest person into an honest one. A selfish person would be turned into a generous person. The changes that would take place would be endless.

One great cause of this situation is the fact that from many pulpits the sermons are so watered down that the hearers do not hear the true Word of God.

I close this article having only touched the subject. It is my absolute belief that if professed Christians, enmasse, obeyed the Golden Rule, the coming of the Lord would be delayed. Otherwise, I think the time is near for Him to take His Bride out of this evil world.

The late Brother Paul R. Myers

### **ALL WE LIKE SHEEP**

Isaiah 53:6, "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all."

The so called "Big Bang" theory was in the news once again,

recently, in our local newspaper. Supposedly scientists have discovered a small amount of helium gas somewhere out in space that now gives further credence to the "Big Bang" theory of the origin of life.

We are not a computer expert by any means although we do operate a simple computer-run system at our place of employment. But this much we know, a computer will tell you anything you wish to know **AS LONG AS IT RECEIVES THIS INFORMATION FIRST**. Therefore, if you feed false information into a computer, then use the electronic brain to analyze it, you will receive a correct analysis based on the false information.

You may be wondering by now what this has to do with sheep. If a sheep will follow his shepherd, even if it is to the slaughter house, are not many using the same type of wisdom by following their own line of reasoning?

Truly, "All we like sheep have gone astray." The hardest portions of Scripture are those that point out the weaknesses in our lives. All too often we pour our strong points into the "computer" of our mind and receive the exact results we desire.

"We have turned every one to his own way." We fail to see the error of our way but we can recognize the failures in others with little effort.

Another aspect to this truth is that many have chosen to follow their own way in place of the way of the Lord. Like the computer scientists who place false information into a system, then use this data to prove its validity, there are those who interpret scripture to their own liking, then use this information to soothe their consciences. One of the hardest things to do is to separate the "sheep" from the "goats." We have said and written many times that we do not judge who are Christians and who are not. We leave that up to God. We have come to realize that false teachers usually have some truth mixed with their error. Recently a Jehovah Witness couple was at our door and we found ourselves agreeing with what they were saying concerning the truth of Creation and the false teaching of evolution. We realize that their rejection of the Lord Jesus Christ as God the Son leaves them out of the family of God. But where does that leave those who accept theistic evolution? We have come into contact with many individuals, through our writing efforts and other contacts, with whom we have a strong feeling of Christian fellowship. Yet, we recognize that they have chosen to follow their own reasoning in place of allowing the Bible to speak for itself.

Many have accused the Dunkard Brethren Church and other like minded groups of being like sheep who follow a tradition in place of Holy Scripture. It is true that tradition has played an important part in our history and understanding of Scripture. But our tradition has kept us true to the Bible in many more ways than it has been a detriment. We have come to the conclusion that tradition should not be a cause of a break in fellowship. If it keeps us closer to God and farther from the world we should be very slow in throwing it away. We must be careful that we do not fall into the error of many today, also, and relegate Scriptural truth to the area of human tradition.

"And the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all." Most of those who reject a literal seven day Creation also reject the truth of original sin. If there is no place of judgment there is no need of a Savior. The glorious truth that the Lord Jesus Christ has shed His precious blood for our salvation has been replaced by man's reasoning that says that all individuals will eventually be saved.

Let us like sheep follow the true Shepherd of eternal life, which starts with a life of obedience, now.

Brother James M. Hite  
816 E. Birch St.  
Palmyra, PA 17078-2704

## DEPRESSION

"If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth."  
Mark 9:23.

Depression is reaching epidemic proportions in America today. It is a feeling of utter hopelessness and a lack of ambition. Often, depressed people are suicidal. Suicides have never been higher in our country. This shows me that America is experiencing a spiritual downturn, because faith and trust in God are the only real cures for depression. Doctors can give people medicine, but medicine largely just masks the symptoms. It does very little to treat the disease.

The best advice to people who claim to be depressed is to simply trust in God, and trust in Him with all your heart.

"...Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief." Mark 9:24:

A simple, childlike faith gets more difficult as we get older. Little ones are not discouraged by circumstances and have little understanding of the forces of nature that we older ones have. What does it take for us to SIMPLY believe that what He promised, He will carry through.

O for a strong and lasting faith,  
To credit what the Almighty saith;



To embrace the message of His Son,  
And call the joys of heaven my own.

We cannot expect muscles to get strong unless they are exercised. Faith needs to be exercised. To throw up our hands and say it is of no use is to deny God's promises. God said, "My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness." (II Cor. 12:9) Since, in us God has little to work with, but weakness, all we need to do is call on Him and He will do that which we are unable to do. We must trust God.

I glory in infirmity  
That Christ's own power may rest on me:  
When I am weak, then am I strong;  
Grace is my shield, and Christ my song.

Depressed people feel as if they are not in control of their circumstances. Christians, since they follow the Lord, must trust God in their circumstances. We can feel helpless, but there is a source of foundation and strength. We can feel hopeless, but there is hope in God.

Why am I writing this? I am writing this because we are in the midst of hopeless times. We may not be able to foresee an answer to our problems, but God has the answer we do not see.

"Hold thou me up, and I shall be safe:..." Psalm 119:117.

Brother Lynn H. Miller  
RD 2 Box 561  
Newmanstown, PA 17073

## **ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE**

### **"Should Christians engage in politics?"**

Those who have been to Retreat or have helped with it, as staff members over the years, know that I prefer not to mince words where the Bible gives us strong mandates and teaching. Sometimes it seems easy to just go along with the movement of modern "radio Christianity" and let them set the values and rules for our lives. We need to be cautioned that the only authority on life is God's Word.

Biblical Christianity is pan-political. It can and has existed and flourished under all types of political systems. In fact, Church history witnesses to the phenomenon of a church that prospers more during persecution than under more favorable circumstances. Many Christians living under varying political systems have questioned the extent to which they should try to influence government decisions or public opinion toward Christian ideals.

Christians living in countries affording freedom of speech and religion obviously have more opportunity for direct influence than do

those living under repressive regimes. At least a couple of factors keep Christians from having the influence they should have in forming policy.

First, since the Word of God plainly teaches that born again believers hold a heavenly citizenship, some Christians feel that they have no responsibility toward this world or its governments. True believers have withdrawn even further from the public arena when religious apostates substituted their social gospel for God's saving gospel. The social gospel, which claims that the only salvation man needs will come through improving society's systems, is totally unbiblical.

Yet, the Bible also teaches that believers have a responsibility to be a force for good in this world. Knowing Jesus Christ as your personal Savior should make you the "salt of the earth" and the "light of the world." Salt becomes worthless if it loses its distinctive flavor and a light has no purpose if it is not penetrating the darkness. "Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people." Righteousness will have no place unless those who have received God's free gift of righteousness in Christ exercise an appropriate influence. This influence will primarily be in the spreading of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Beyond that, it can lead to taking stands on public issues in a manner manifesting righteousness.

The Apostle Paul sets an example by using his Roman citizenship to obtain justice. After he was beaten and jailed on trumped-up charges, he demanded a public apology from the magistrates that would vindicate his testimony. He later appealed to the highest governmental authority in an attempt to obtain judicial redress. He followed the example of Christ and the Old Testament prophets in being a voice for righteousness whenever he had the opportunity to address rulers or governing bodies. He did not consider himself isolated from governmental function.

Now, do not confuse a vocal stance on social problems with the Church's main mandate of evangelism. This is where the social gospel has gone astray. We might use, as an example, the crusade for the ecology. Social gospel spokesmen see this as an essential crusade for world improvement, thus they see it as the mission of the Church. Believe me, reducing air pollution can improve the quality of life in our communities and that is good. Being active in the fight against pollution is not going to help people understand how to meet their God. We are not commanded to save the environment but we are commanded to save the world. Do we, then, have a right to be poor stewards of the ecology? Of course not! That is part of God's creation and anything God made has value.



Another factor that retards our influence in government is the intimidation we feel when we receive unjust indictments from the opposition. Efforts to promote anything resembling Christian morality in any public forum are usually met with great rebuffs such as, "You have no right to force your religious beliefs on others." (Of course, they have a right to force saving the environment on others...but that is another story!)

While Christians endure intimidation for expressing their convictions, all manner of other ideologies enjoy comparative freedom. For instance, theistic and atheistic humanism pervade the public educational system. They see it as the only thing that will salvage the educational enterprise. Yet, humanism meets every criterion of a "religion." Do we not have the same right, under the law, to voice our convictions as do other religionists? Banning the doctrine of creation from schools and replacing it with evolution is a similar situation.

When moral issues are under discussion in the public forum, Christians have a right to present their case and voice their convictions. The Christian cannot divorce his Biblical faith from the issues of our day. He cannot force anyone to adopt convictions that are Biblical but he can recognize his responsibility and right to voice the truth and proclaim the gospel message.

May God bless us with great wisdom in knowing to what extent we can be valuable in His service in proclaiming the truth and in provoking governmental change. Certainly we can begin this task by the Biblical mandate for prayer.

Brother Len Wertz

## **SIXTY YEARS AGO**

July 15, 1935

### **THE CHRISTIAN RACE**

E. J. Reece

To run, and how to run, is the main particular thing that should interest us. In Heb. 12:1-2, we can learn much, "Wherefore (for which reason) seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith." That great cloud of witnesses, we find in the preceding chapter, as Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Rahab, Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthae, David and Samuel, and of the prophets, of which we learn just how they ran. And that was as the Lord directed. So the writer concludes, by saying "Let us lay aside every weight, and



the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith," as those mentioned in the preceding chapter did. The apostle Paul tells us how he ran, "I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air; but I keep under my body, and bring it unto subjection; lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway." (I Cor. 9:26-27.)

And just so with us. If we run with certainty, must lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus the Author and Finisher of our faith.

That faith that cometh by hearing God's word. (Rom. 10:17.) Instead of being tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and the cunning craftiness whereby they lie in weight to deceive. (Eph. 4:14.)

Another very important thing to do is to get on the "narrow way," and keep on the "narrow way" where we know the sign boards are true, and use sufficient time to know just how they read. Solomon tells us that "the race is not to the swift," that means much.

Take time to ask for the old paths, and then walk therein, as did Zacharias and Elizabeth in all the commands and ordinances of the Lord blameless, and they were both righteous. (Luke 1:6.)

That kind of a race will make any one right, God being no respecter of persons, but in every nation he that feareth Him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with Him. (Acts 10:34-35.)

Looking unto Jesus, the Author and Finisher of your faith is the only safe way to run. "Jesus says learn of Me." "Jesus sayeth unto him (Thomas) I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life; no man cometh unto the Father but by Me." (John 14:6.)

A few years ago I heard a young minister make the remark in the pulpit, that he knew that the prophets said to ask for the old paths, but he was going to blaze out some new ones, and he did, by which he got the organ into his worship, and the standing posture in prayer, the modern way of omitting the prayer that Jesus said we should say, when we pray, and the modern style of dressing. All of which is adverse to Bible teaching.

Listen to one of the directions on the narrow way, Paul to Timothy, "Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them, for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself and them that hear thee." Again to Timothy, "Preach the word." With this connect what he says in Gal. 1:8-12.

Let us consider Paul's teaching as given in I Tim. 6:3, "If any man

teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the doctrine which is according to Godliness: He is proud, knowing nothing, but doting about questions and strifes of words, whereof cometh envy, strife, railings, evil surmisings," finally he says, "from such withdraw thyself."

Hear the apostle further, "Let no man deceive you with vain words; for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience." (Eph. 5:6.)

To the church at Rome, "Now I beseech you brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them. For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple," (unlearned). We should not be side-tracked, deceived by their zeal. We might do to test them out as did the prophet Elijah, the prophets of Baal. (I Kings 18:27-30.)

In running the Christian race we need the spirit and mind of Jesus. In order to overcome the trials and tribulations that may come upon us. The apostle speaking of Christ says, "For consider Him that endured such contradiction of sinners against Himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds." What helped the Master to endure those trials and persecutions, was the joy that was set before Him, looking forward to the glory that was soon to follow.

Think of the persecutions Paul endured, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in death oft. Of the Jews five times he received forty stripes, save one; thrice was he beaten with rods, once was he stoned, three times suffered shipwreck and a great many more he mentioned in this 11th chapter of II Corinthians. And in the end of his race, facing Nero's block, he could say I am now ready to be offered. Why? Because he knew that there was a crown of righteousness laid up for him. The same for us if we run as he did.

## **NEWS ITEMS**

### **AFRICAN MISSION**

December 3, 1984 one of God's Children in Nairobi, Kenya, having obtained the May 15, 1982 issue of the Bible Monitor, challenged 'OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the Gospel' with two simple questions: "Please can you tell me more about the members and how they go into all the world and preach the Gospel? At our invitation can they come over to Kenya?" Signed, Yours in Christ, Theresa Anne Okello.

Brother Paul and Sister Mary Stump finally answered this appeal this past January and early February (see MISSION ACCOMPLISHED in March 15, 1995, issue of the Bible Monitor).



Because of this visit, the General Mission Board submitted the following Statement that was passed by General Conference:

The General Mission Board wishing to fulfill the Great Commission wishes to recommend to Standing Committee and the delegates of General Conference that we:

1. Continue the work done during the last year in Kenya and Uganda.

2. Seek out and teach native leaders and their followers Biblical doctrines and principles of living and leadership as interpreted by the Dunkard Brethren Church.

3. Where feasible, locate leaders to establish local congregations.

4. In light of the lack of an existing Dunkard Brethren Church in Africa, We authorize appointed Brethren to install qualified nationals into the ministry after a careful examination of their beliefs, character, and commitment to the Word of God.

5. Establish a separate mission fund toward the support of the work over there for fifteen months to be reviewed annually.

To implement these recommendations, we suggest the appointment by the General Mission Board of a three-member, interim, African Mission Board.

The members of the Dunkard Brethren African Mission Board appointed by the General Mission Board are: Chairman-Brother Rudy Shaffer; Treasurer-Brother Mark Andrews; Secretary-Brother Ray Reed. Their organizational meeting was by telephone conference, June 22, 1995. Preliminary work is under way. Your prayerful support is implored. May we all accept the call. "Reaching the unreached is a task that must be done." "He that winneth souls is wise." Proverbs 11:30b.

Contributions may be made to Brother Mark Andrews, Treasurer, and sent to Brother Ray Reed, Secretary, 302 Percival, Dallas Center, IA 50063.

### DALLAS CENTER, IOWA

The Dallas Center Congregation is looking forward to our Revival Meetings, August 11 through 20, 1995, the Lord willing. Brother Dennis St. John, Pleasant Ridge, Ohio will be our evangelist. Services at 9:30 and 7:00 on Sunday and 7:30 during the week. Lovefeast Saturday services will begin at 10:45 A.M., 2:00 P.M. for Examination Service and Lovefeast at 7:00 P.M. on August 19.

We invite any and all to be with us; also remember us in your prayers that we might all be touched and drawn closer to the Lord. Also that sinners will be brought to the knowledge of the truth in these last days.

Sister Arlene Flora, Cor.



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## **ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR AUGUST 1995**

August 6 - Punishments for Offenses - Exodus 21:18-36.

1. Explain the meaning of the words "be quit." (v. 19, 28)
2. Why was the owner put to death when his ox killed someone?  
Under what circumstances?

August 13 - Restitution for Trespasses - Exodus 22:1-31.

1. Explain the different multiples of restitution and how they relate to circumstances.
2. Why was not usury to be preached?

August 20 - Laws for Judgment - Exodus 23:1-19.

1. What is wrong with gifts?
2. Explain the similarities and differences of the seventh day and the seventh year.

August 27 - An Angel to go Before - Exodus 23:20-33.

1. Who is the angel who goes before us today?
2. Why did the heathen inhabitants have to be driven out of the land?

## **YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR AUGUST 1995**

August 6 - Naaman - II Kings 5:1-27, Luke 4:27.

1. Explain the significance of faith and obedience in Naaman's healing.
2. What motivations prompted Gehazi's actions?

August 13 - Headship - I Corinthians 11:1-15.

1. List the order of headship, beginning with God.
2. What is the purpose of the woman's veiling?

August 20 - Almost Persuaded - Acts 26:1-29.

1. In what ways did Paul use the circumstances of his trial to preach the gospel?
2. Why was Paul kept bound even though they declared he had done nothing worthy of death or bonds?

August 27 - Divine Grace - Ps. 84:9-12, I Cor. 3:10-14, II Cor. 1:12, Eph. 2:1-10.

1. What is the basis of God's grace?
2. Through whom is God's grace shown?

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# BIBLE MONITOR

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NO. 15

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## THY WILL

Not in dumb resignation  
    We lift our hands on high;  
Not like the nerveless fatalist,  
    Content to do and die.  
Our faith springs like the eagle  
    Who soars to meet the sun,  
And cries, exulting, unto thee,  
    "O Lord, thy will be done!"

Thy will! It bids the weak be strong;  
    It bids the strong be just;  
No lip to fawn, no hand to beg,  
    No brow to seek the dust.  
Wherever man oppresses man,  
    Beneath the liberal sun,  
O Lord, be there! Thine arm make bare!  
    Thy righteous will be done!

-John Hay

## THE LISTS WE MAKE

There are a multitude of lists made and published. There are lists of the prettiest, the ugliest, the best, the worst, the biggest, the smallest, the oldest, the youngest and of many other descriptions. It depends who makes the list, what the criterion is for inclusion on the list.

One of the lists that is of interest to many people is the list of best and worst dressed people. By whatever criteria they are chosen, those on these lists are honored or snubbed according to their position on the lists. Yet, it would be safe to say that most who read this would use a far different standard in judging the dress of people.

There have been a number of books published, which have contained nothing but various lists. These lists usually contain trivial information. The information tends to be more entertaining than educational.

Many people make lists of tasks that they need to accomplish. Whether it is a list of various projects that they need to prioritize or the various steps to accomplish a goal, lists aid their memories. What is written can be better remembered than that which is just in the mind. There is a greater probability that a task will be accomplished if it is written.

As Christians we have a tendency to make lists also. These lists, sometimes, become a list of beliefs, which may become a creed. After such a creed is fashioned, there is often a demand that all subscribe to it. While it may be handy to summarize beliefs and get them into a handy form, it can become dangerous if this list supersedes the Bible. There is a danger that the list will replace the

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Bible as the source of accepted orthodoxy. Men begin to think that their carefully constructed creed becomes more important than the delivered Word of God. Often these creeds are assembled through the deliberations and compromises of men, who are not totally agreed with each other. Instead of accepting the unfailing Word of God, they will put their faith in a statement concocted by men seeking a consensus. It is far better to take the Bible as the final word than to try to improve upon it by men's designed statements.

Among our list making, we are apt to make lists of sins. We get the idea that there are some sins that are big and others that are little. We are shocked when the big sins are committed, but tend to excuse the little ones. In our classification of sins we tend to become judges rather than doers. We judge how serious a particular act is. Often, acts that we do, we would consider to be quite unimportant, compared to the deeds of others. This perhaps explains why we tend to classify sins as large or small. It is a matter of protecting our own spiritual egos.

We have our individual systems of classifying sins. We would all agree that there are certain deeds that are so terrible and anti-God that they must certainly be great sins. Murder, rape, robbery, adultery, blasphemy, abortion, and any number of other things would be big sins on anyone's list. There are other deeds that would be sins on everyone's lists, but some would consider them more serious than others. There are other deeds that some would consider sins, even serious sins, while others would hardly think of them as sins at all. When dealing with deeds not mentioned in the Bible, there may be a variance in opinion on their seriousness. Some people develop concerns about some deeds that do not seemingly bother other people. Therefore, opinions vary whether these deeds would be considered big or little.

While we are making lists of sins we may have a tendency to make lists of people. We set some people higher on our list because they meet our criteria. They agree with our views. They have a similar list of big and little sins. They would do the same things we would do. They would not do those things we would not do. Some would use other criteria to make lists of people. They would separate people by their race, color or ethnic background. Some are impressed by the rich. They would have a special place on their lists and in their hearts for those who are rich. Others would seek out those who are famous.

The list we must be most interested in is the list God is writing in Heaven. There will be a time when the Lamb's Book of Life will be opened. It is our hope that our names will be found there.

Do you ever make lists? Are your lists Scriptural?

M.C.Cook

## THE POWER OF GOD

Webster defines power as: "The ability to do or act, force, strength, authority."

It is utterly impossible for the finite mind to comprehend the extreme power that God possesses. Only God and Christ have access to that power.

Jesus, in Matt. 28:18 states, "...all power is given unto me in heaven and in earth." While on earth, He used that power to the benefit and blessing of mankind. In all the healings, the raising of the dead, the feeding of the multitudes, the abating of storms, the resisting of Satan and so forth, He knew no failures. Why? Because God imparted (shared) to Jesus that power.

There are three specific attributes ascribed to God.

(1) God is OMNIPOTENT. He has unlimited power.

(2) He is OMNIPRESENT. He is able to be anywhere, any time and everywhere at the same time.

(3) He is OMNISCIENT. He knows all things.

(1) There is much evidence in the Holy Bible, of the POWER OF GOD. He started with nothing and created (caused to come into existence) the world and all things therein. Job 26:7, "He stretched out the north over the empty place, AND HANGED THE EARTH UPON NOTHING."

He created man from the dust of the earth, then breathed into him the breath of life and he became a living soul. What power!

Every plant, every specie of fish, animal and insect, and man, his highest creation, were so created to reproduce after their own kind.

As time went on, and man sinned, God sent His only begotten Son, Jesus to bring God's plan of salvation. Jesus, who was sinless, stood trial, being shamefully mistreated. He was crucified on the cross of Calvary.

At Christ's death, God manifested His mighty power. We read in Matt. 27:50-53, "Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost. And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent; And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose. And came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city (Jerusalem), and appeared unto many."

We, in our day, are very aware of the power of God. The strong earthquake in California and the much greater one in Japan are manifestations of the power of God.

Much more could be written regarding the power of God. He

possesses the power to fulfill His promise as stated by Jesus Himself in John 5:28-29, "Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation."

(2) God is omnipresent. He is able to be anywhere, or everywhere, all at the same time.

He is ON DUTY at all times. We read in Isaiah 41:17, "When the poor and needy seek water, and there is none, and their tongue faileth for thirst, I the Lord will hear them, I the God of Israel will not forsake them."

Psalms 37:25, David's words, "I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread."

The writer of Proverbs 18:24b, referring to God states, "there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother."

Psalms 139:7-10, Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence? If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me."

When Jonah was cast into the sea God was present. He prepared a great fish to swallow Jonah to protect his life. Because Jonah tried to flee from God, he had to experience the power and presence of God, after which God caused the fish to vomit out Jonah upon the dry land. Read Jonah, chapters two and three.

Today, we, who are living, observe about us those who, upon their death, want to be cremated, to the intent that their ashes be scattered to the wind. They, as all people, will stand before the great Judge and be tried. The outcome of that judgment will determine where we shall spend Eternity, Heaven or Hell. There is no possible way to flee the presence of God.

(3) God is omniscient. He knows all things. His knowledge is without limits. Job 12:13, "With him is wisdom and strength, he hath counsel and understanding."

I Chronicles 2:5b, "for great is our God above all gods."

I Thess. 2:5b, "God is witness." God has full knowledge of every human being.

David, in Psalm 139:14 states, "...for I am fearfully and wonderfully made:..." So are we all. God made us, and knows all things about us.

Matt. 10:30, "But the very hairs of your head are all numbered." Can you fathom such knowledge?



With millions of sparrows flying over this earth, Luke 12:6b states that, "and not one of them is forgotten before God."

Psalms 95:5, "The sea is his, and he made it: and his hands formed the dry land." Just as a housewife takes a clump of dough, and with her hands, forms a pie shell, it was just as easy for God to form the dry ground.

Needless to say God's knowledge knows no limits. Much of His knowledge He has shared with Christ and with the human race.

There is only one event, yet to come in the future, that even Christ, His Son does not know, as recorded in Matthew 24:36, "But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only." These are the words of Jesus.

The late Brother Paul R. Myers

### **"WHICH WAY ARE YOU TRAVELING?"**

The Church and the world walked far apart

On the new-age movement time;

The world was singing a classic song

And the Church a hymn sublime.

"It's not as bad as you think,"

But the good ole Church turned not aside

But said, "Come to the water to drink!"

The proud old world said, "Your Church is too plain

We'll build you one like mine.

With more rooms for classes and nurseries

And blue curtains ever so fine.

Get rid of your blinds, purchase curtains indeed

And styled furniture just like mine.

It's only a rut you've got yourself into....."

But you see, the world was blind.

The puffed-up world said, "You dress too plain

Get loose and don't be so sober."

The Good Ole Church solemnly answered and said,

"Praise God for dresses of modesty,

Praise God, I'd do the same thing over!"

The casual look is not for Christians;

A modest, separate people of Christ we must be,

With Jesus vividly living in me!

The hawk-eyed world said, "Your singing is dead,

Sing modern-time praise songs in varied ways.

You get slowed down in the old fashioned hymns  
The old book has much dismay."  
The adamant Church firmly looked ahead  
To the only wise Father in Heaven, and said;  
"Lord open their eyes, YOU are not dead!  
To their sin-filled hearts of pride instead."

The Good Ole Time Religion is for me;  
Singing songs of Zion cheerfully.  
The good ole hymns of Zion fills my heart;  
The Christian really should do his part.  
Digging a little deeper in the Word for God,  
Rooting out the selfish pride,  
Yes, the Good Ole Time Religion is  
Good enough for me—He provides!

When the trumpet shall blow and the Lord shall descend;  
We will stand before the God of all ages.  
"Lord look at me, I'm Christian you see,  
But plainness and simplicity just isn't for me.  
It's too much on me to look separate from the world  
And be mocked in a crowd for Thee.  
I'd rather be a mouse in a hospital ward  
Than to look separate don't you see?"

God declares to His people, "Come out from among them  
And be ye separate, Saith He.  
What manner of persons ought to be?  
Plain, Separate people for the world to plainly see;  
From hair and clothes, extra adornments be free,  
The Christian, a distinct but humble people, Ye,  
Reliance on the Lord, a child of faith about me,  
The Ole Time Religion is just good enough for me!

The world hung her head low and walked away  
For the grounded Church was there to stay!  
Firmly rooted deep in the earth.  
Firmly transplanted since the new birth.  
Shouting, "There's VICTORY over sin, Satan and hell"  
Hallelujah I've been born again in Him do dwell;  
Glory to the Lamb that was slain for me.  
Praise God for the Ole time religion...It's good enough for me!

As I was traveling to an eastern suburb of Dayton to take care of some children while their mother was in surgery, cars were passing me and whipping in and out. The rain was pouring down, the windshield was fogging up and I was trying to watch road signs to get to the proper destination. With the hustle and bustle of it all, I ended up being lost. Lost in the big city with dead end streets, one way streets and many traffic lights.

Upon realizing my predicament, I started asking for help. One quick stop-shop was open to my advantage. I hurriedly went in and asked for directions. To my dismay, the gentleman said, "I don't know either but I'll try to look on my map." While waiting for my directions, five tough, rough, dirty, mortal souls stepped into the store. As I turned around to check on their whereabouts, one fellow stared and scowled at me. I suppose he was wondering just where I came from and what mystified group I belonged to. I whispered a prayer that I was thankful I looked like I did. Sometimes God takes us through a test of faith to show us Christians just what separation from the world must be.

As the days are going by, do we show our colors, pilgrims, everywhere? Are we separate in dress and appearance from the world? Does the world know by looking at us, that we belong to Christ? What Biblical grounds are we rooted into? What kind of standard are we laying down for the world around us to see? Do we look like the world and have one foot in the Church, just so the Lord might save us someday?

Christian, fellow travelers to the bar of God, we must give an account someday. There is no way out. We will have our "Report Card" read. Will we be faithful, true, sincere and worthy to enter the Portals of Glory? Luke 6:22 says, "Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake."

As the world continues to wax worse and worse do we not continue to see the Church swing and sway? When I joined the church, soon to be thirty-one years ago, the black hats and bonnets lined the back entryway wall of the Church house. There was an identity there which the world recognized us by. The brethren wore the standing collar coat each Sunday. It was a Heavenly sight to see the Unity and Happiness there. Is God asking too much of us Christians to dress just one day for the Lord? It would be wonderful if you could tell who the Christian people are each day of the week. Some people say, "It is too hot." God pity us if we cannot sweat one day for the Lord because of modesty! Can we not deny self one day for the Lord? If



we are one of God's children we WILL yield our all on the altar and give ourselves wholly unto God.

"WHICH WAY ARE YOU TRAVELING?"

An Unworthy Servant,  
Sister Shirley L. Frick

### WHO AM I?

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| Matt. 5:13       | I am the salt of the earth.  |
| Matt. 5:14       | I am the light of the world.   |
| John 1:12        | I am a child of God.(Part of His family)(see Rom. 8:16)  |
| John 15:1,5      | I am part of the true vine, a channel (branch) of His (Christ's) life.   |
| John 15:15       | I am Christ's friend.  |
| John 15:16       | I am chosen and appointed to bear HIS fruit.   |
| Acts 1:8         | I am a personal witness of Christ for Christ.  |
| Rom. 6:18        | I am a slave to righteousness.   |
| Rom. 6:22        | I am enslaved to God.  |
| Rom. 8:14-15     | I am a son of God (God is my "daddy" so to speak)(see Gal. 3:26/4:6)   |
| Rom. 8:17        | I am a joint-heir with Christ sharing His inheritance with Him.  |
| I Cor. 3:16/6:19 | I am a temple (home) of God. His Spirit (His life) dwells in me.   |
| I Cor. 6:17      | I am joined (united) to the Lord and am one spirit with Him.   |
| I Cor. 12:27     | I am a member (part) of Christ's body. (see Eph. 5:30)   |
| II Cor. 5:17     | I am a new creation (new person)   |
| II Cor. 5:18-19  | I am reconciled to God and a minister of reconciliation.   |
| Gal. 3:26,28     | I am a son of God and one in Christ.   |
| Gal. 4:6-7       | I am an heir of God since I am a son of God.   |
| Eph. 1:1         | I am a saint. (see I Cor. 1:2, Phil. 1:1, Col. 1:2)  |
| Eph 2:10         | I am God's workmanship (handiwork) created (born anew) in Christ to do his work that He planned beforehand that I should do. |

- Eph 2:19 I am a fellow citizen with the rest of God's people in His family.
- Eph 3:1/4:1 I am a prisoner of Christ.
- Eph. 4 24 I am righteous and holy.
- Phil. 3:20 I am a citizen of heaven and am seated in heaven right now. (see Eph. 2:6)
- Col. 3:3 I am hidden with Christ in God.
- Col. 3:4 I am an expression of the life of Christ because He is my life.
- Col. 3:12 I am chosen of God, holy, and dearly loved.
- I Thess. 1:4 I am chosen and dearly loved by God.
- I Thess. 5:5 I am a son of light and not of darkness.
- Heb. 3:1 I am a holy brother, partaker of a heavenly calling.
- Heb. 3:14 I am a partaker of Christ...I share His life.
- I Pet. 2:5 I am one of God's spiritual stones and am being built up (in Christ) as a spiritual house.
- I Pet. 2:9-10 I am a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession to proclaim the excellencies of Him.
- I Pet. 2:11 I am an alien and stranger to this world I temporarily live in.
- I Pet. 5:8 I am an enemy of the devil.
- I John 3:1-2 I am now a child of God. I will resemble Christ when He returns.
- I John 5:18 I am born of God and the evil one (the devil) can't touch me.
- Psalms 23,100 I am a sheep of his pastures therefore I have everything I need.

Brother Greg Wray  
4312 Murphy Road  
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### RECKONING

"Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord." Romans 6:11.

The dictionary meaning of the word "reckon" is to "count or

compute." In Bible times it would best have been defined as "accounting, or bookkeeping." Those of us with experience know that mathematical accounting is one of the most accurate of the sciences. Can a person describe an event with total accuracy? Can a person reproduce a sunset on paper with a few colored pencils? No. But we can accurately total up numbers or facts. If I tell you that two plus two equals four, can you doubt me? Very few people would doubt it, because it is an invariable fact.

When God tells His people to reckon themselves dead unto sin and alive unto God, there should be no doubt in their hearts or minds. We can believe God. He is totally reliable. There is no room for error on His part. If we have truly been converted, then His promises to us are indisputable, because these promises are for all who believe. As the scriptures say, we must believe that He is, and that He is the rewarder of them that DILIGENTLY seek Him.

Brother Lynn H. Miller  
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Newmanstown, PA 17073

## SHOULD WE THEN MAKE MIRTH?

Ezekiel 21:9-10, "Son of man, prophesy, and say, Thus saith the Lord; Say, A sword, a sword is sharpened, and also furbished: It is sharpened to make a sore slaughter; it is furbished that it may glitter: should we then make mirth?..."

We live in a day that seems to be devoid of being serious about much of anything. A phenomenon known as "holy laughter" appears to be sweeping across the world. "Smile God loves you" has been a catchword phrase for some time now. Many church services resemble a drunken orgy in place of solemn worship. We believe that three important truths are being lost as the earthly church (as a whole) is moving from serious worship to frivolous entertainment.

The first thing that is being lost is a holy reverence for God. We are slowly but surely losing the "Thus saith the LORD," in the majority of church services, we fear. In Psalm 111:9 we read, "He sent redemption unto his people: he hath commanded his covenant for ever: holy and reverend is his name." Not only, in our humble opinion, does this verse prohibit calling a man "Holy" or "Reverend" for a title but it speaks of the reverence we should have for God because He sent His redemption unto His people. No longer do many fall prostrate at the feet of the Lord in prayer. They refuse to even bend the knee!

The second thing that is being lost is a separation from the world. In Titus 2:12 we read, "Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this



present world." In most church settings it seems as if a verse such as this is changed to read, "God wishes you to take part in worldly lusts and to have a good time as a Christian." Whether modern religion (called Christianity) recognizes it or not, "a sword is sharpened." This sword is the Word of God, the Holy Bible. We must deny ungodliness. The word, "deny" as used here means to oppose. The modern church may accept such things as homosexuality and abortion but God still opposes such things! The majority of modern day preachers may tell you that there is nothing wrong in going to places of worldly amusement or owning a television or VCR that can lead to enjoying worldly lusts but the Word of God still instructs us to be a separate people. It is not popular to desire to live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world, but God still requires it.

A third danger is that we may forget the serious nature of our eternal destination. In II Thessalonians 2:10-12 we read, "And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness." Men no longer seem to believe that the sword of God "is sharpened to make a sore slaughter." "It is furbished that it may glitter." The light reflected from the Word of God is from the Holy Sanctuary of Heaven. Much is said about the love of God today, but how often do we hear of a need of "the love of the truth?" God is Love but He is also a God of Holy and Righteous judgment. The popular saying, "It does not matter what you believe, as long as you believe," is foreign to Holy Scripture teaching. We do not know how far an individual must go in rejection of the truth of Holy Scripture before God will "send them a strong delusion, that they should believe a lie," but it is certainly a very serious warning. The fact that "they all might be damned who believed not the truth," is surely no laughing matter.

We would not desire to leave you under the impression that there is to be no joy in our Christian experience. But joy and mirth are two different things entirely. We also believe it is not wrong to laugh when we get together for social gatherings. But our laughter should never be at the expense of others or humor that speaks ill of another race or color and especially not that that TAKES AWAY THE HOLINESS OF GOD OR HIS WORD.

Brother James M. Hite  
816 E. Birch St.  
Palmyra, PA 17078-2704

**SIXTY YEARS AGO**

August 1, 1935

**OPPOSITION**

L. W. Beery

When one puts forth effort for the cause of Christ in this world of sin opposition can be expected; the reason for this is obvious, Jesus the author and finisher of our faith was bitterly opposed during His ministry here. "He came unto his own, and his own received him not." (John 1:11) Jesus was a messenger of light to this old sin cursed world and His coming revealed the sinful deeds of men; this resulted in condemnation to those who did not turn away from their sins. "And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil." (John 3:19.)

If men would love light rather than darkness this would be quite a different world to live in. But it is true now as it was in the time of Christ, men do love darkness rather than light therefore they oppose any cause that exposes and condemns their unlawful deeds. "For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved." (John 3:20.)

Not only do evil men oppose the efforts of true Christians, they hate those who put forth these efforts. This was true with our Master. In speaking along this line Jesus said, "If I had not come and spoken unto them, they had not had sin: but now they have no cloke for their sin. He that hateth me hateth my Father also. If I had not done among them the works which none other man did, they had not had sin: but now have they both seen and hated both me and my Father." (John 15:22-24.)

Jesus knew how His followers would be treated so He said this to His disciples, "If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you. If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you." (John 15:18-19.) If we are true followers of the Christ we can expect this hostile resistance of the world.

This opposition does not come alone from men who make no profession of religion; in fact in our day some of the bitterest animosities come from those who profess to be followers of the Christ; individuals and churches who have apostatized and compromised with the world. Those who have apostatized hate the true Christian and the true Christian church because true Christianity exposes the corruption in an apostate individual and church. This accounts for the experiences of the faithful few in these days who are

striving for the true faith of the gospel.

It has been and is the aim of the Dunkard Brethren to uphold all the teachings of Christ and carry the message of salvation to those who have it not. In view of what Jesus experienced and the instructions he left us it is not to be wondered at that we have had bitter opposition; we need not expect anything else as long as we earnestly contend for the unadulterated gospel.

It is encouraging to hear the words of our Savior to those who have learned the way of truth and righteousness; "Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake. Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for, behold, your reward is great in heaven: for in the like manner did their fathers unto the prophets." (Luke 6:22-23.)

### **THINGS I WISH I HAD KNOWN BEFORE I WAS 21**

I wish I had known what I was going to do as a living, and what my life work would likely be.

I wish I had known that my health after 30 was largely dependent on what I had put into my stomach before I was 21.

I wish I had known how to take care of my money.

**I WISH I HAD KNOWN** that a man's habits are hard to change after 21.

I wish I had known that the harvest depends so much upon the seeds sown.

I wish I had known you cannot get something for nothing.

I wish I had known the world would give me just about what I deserved.

I wish I had known the folly of not taking the advice of older, wiser people.

I wish I had known that Dad wasn't such an old fogey after all.

I wish I had known that everything Mother wanted me to do was right.

I wish I had known what it meant to Mother and Father to raise a son.

I wish I had known more of the helpful and inspiring parts of the Bible.

I wish I had known the tremendous value of the opportunity and the joy of serving a fellow man.

I wish I had known that there is no better exercise for the heart than reaching down and helping people up.

I wish I had known that the "sweat of my brow" would earn my bread.

I wish I had known that thorough education brings the best of everything else.

I wish I had known that honesty is the **ONLY** policy, not only in dealing with my neighbors but also in dealing with myself and with God.



I wish I had known the value of truthfulness in everything.  
And today I wish I knew the formula for impressing you and other young people that life is a mirror which will reflect back to you what you think into it.

Selected by Sister Martha Shaffer

### **NEWS ITEMS AFRICAN MISSION**

It is the desire of the Brethren going to Uganda to take along standing collar suits. Anyone having a used, serviceable suit in good condition may send it to Bro. Paul Stump, 10340 Diamond Mill Road, Englewood, OH 45322. Please send as soon as possible.

Thank you.

### **GENERAL CONFERENCE 1995 FINANCIAL REPORT**

General Conference 1995 has come and gone! With substantial planning and help from local Fourth District members and our guests, the meal arrangements went smoothly. It was a pleasure to share our homes with Brothers and Sisters from several states. The church and school facilities we rented were more than adequate for our needs. The weather cooperated for the most part and all survived another year! The costs associated with this Conference totaled **\$14,369.79**. The district had originally budgeted \$26,500.00. We are thankful to have more than met our financial goal. The savings realized should permit the Brotherhood to fund, more easily, other pressing needs. Again, we thank you for your flexibility and support.

Fourth District Committee of Arrangements

### **WAYNESBORO, PENNSYLVANIA**

The Lord willing, the Waynesboro Congregation plans for Revival Meetings, August 27, 1995, through September 3, 1995. Bro. David Aungst from the Bethel Congregation will be the evangelist.

Remember these services in prayer, that lost souls would repent and that each of us would be fully dedicated to serving the Lord.

A hearty invitation is extended to all, to come worship with us.

Sister Janet Shaffer, Cor.

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# BIBLE MONITOR

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NO. 16

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## SAY SOMETHING GOOD

When over the fair fame of friend or foe  
The shadow of disgrace shall fall, instead  
Of words of blame or proof of thus and so,  
Let something good be said!

Forget not that no fellow-being yet  
May fall so low but love may lift his head;  
Even the cheek of shame with tears is wet,  
If something good be said.

No generous heart may vainly turn aside  
In ways of sympathy; no soul so dead  
But may awaken, strong and glorified,  
If something good be said.

And so I charge ye, by the thorny crown,  
And by the cross on which the Saviour bled,  
And by your own soul's hope of fair renown,  
Let something good be said!

-James Whitcomb Riley



## UNDESERVED FORGIVENESS

When we are asked to forgive another person, usually the misdeed is so small that it does not require much thought. It is easy to forgive a loved one. We are prone to overlook their errors and sins, anyway, so it is no great thing to forgive them. There may be other times when it is harder to forgive, but we are willing anyway. When the failure involves someone who is a stranger to us or even one we count as an enemy, we may pause before we would forgive.

It is harder to forgive, if the mistake or sin is a large one. If it involves a great deal of money or property we may want some sort of restitution. If it involves a great Spiritual misdeed then it may be even harder to forgive.

Although we speak of forgiving and forgetting, it is impossible to forget a major misdeed that might affect not only ourselves but many other people. Our forgiveness must not be predicated on our ability to forget. Our minds will not allow us to forget something that has had a major impact upon us and others.

Our example of complete, undeserved forgiveness is God. He loved us before we loved Him. He was willing to forgive us, even though we were not interested in Him. He drew the plan of salvation even though we were not interested in it, until His Spirit began to convict, convince and judge us. Then we were willing to turn to the offered source of forgiveness. It was only through the gift of His Only Begotten Son, that we could be forgiven. There was nothing, no matter how good, that we could do that would bring about our forgiveness. Every misdeed that we had done was a sin against God,

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so we were without hope of forgiveness or restoration until we could secure forgiveness through Jesus Christ. We in no way deserved that forgiveness, although we might accept it gladly and quickly, when offered. What could we give God to cover our past sins? There was nothing, so we had to depend upon His gift of undeserved forgiveness.

It bothers some people to receive a gift. They would gladly receive wages. They would gladly trade something they could give for that gift, rather than accept it. The wages spoken of in the New Testament are the wages of sin, which is death, beside those wages is set the gift of God, His Son. It is better to swallow our pride and accept what we can not buy or work for. It is undeserved, therefore we should accept it quickly and gladly.

Since God has forgiven men so undeservedly, it would seem His spiritual family would also imitate His forgiveness. As children resemble their parents, it would be expected that God's family would resemble Him in their characteristics. If God can forgive those who do not deserve such forgiveness, men should forgive each other as well. Those who have received such a great gift would seem the likeliest to forgive others. Christians should be the most openly, forgiving people.

Many situations may arise during a lifetime. Even amongst Christians times of stress and dispute can arise. In a moment of unthinking or in a great burst of emotion, that unworthy of a Christian is said or done. All would agree that it would have been better if it had remained undone and unsaid, but it wasn't.

As cooler passions come to the forefront, there may be an effort made toward forgiveness. What is to be done? Jesus instructed His Apostles there should be no limit set on the forgiveness that was to be offered. Seventy times seven seemed too great to comprehend. How could anyone ask forgiveness that many times? But if he did, he should be forgiven. Jesus said nothing about restitution or punishment. That forgiveness would be undeserved. We become more Christ-like when we are able to offer undeserved forgiveness. One of our goals as a Christian is to become more like our Saviour. The offering of undeserved forgiveness will mark us as becoming more like Jesus.

Can we offer that undeserved forgiveness to others? Can we forgive members of our family? Can we forgive people who have done mean things to us, even years ago, even though they would not even seek our forgiveness? Can we forgive if they continue to say

and do mean things about and to us? Can we forgive fellow members of God's family?

Can we get beyond what punishment others deserve and see that we have all failed to receive the punishment that we have deserved? We, many times, are more interested in what is required of another and less interested in what we should be doing ourselves.

Let us remember the undeserved forgiveness that God has shared with us as we deal with those who sin against us. "And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors."

M.C.Cook

## **THE BEST WAY TO CONQUER YOUR ENEMIES**

A Chinese Emperor was informed that some of his enemies had caused an insurrection in one of the areas of his domain. He said to the officers: "Follow me and we shall soon conquer them."

As soon as the mutineers saw the Emperor approaching, they gave in and surrendered.

His officers expected to receive his orders to kill these mutineers, but he never issued such an order.

The first thing that this Emperor said to his enemies was that he loved them and he was not going to harm them.

One of his officers asked him, "Your Majesty; is this the way that you fulfill your promise of conquering your enemies? You had told us that you were going to conquer your enemies but you forgave them and you are treating them as if they were your friends."

"Yes," answered the Emperor, "I promised to destroy my enemies. I kept my word. They are no more my enemies. I made them my friends."

The easiest way to destroy your enemies is to make them your friends. And who of us does not need more friends?

Brother Lynn H. Miller

RD 2 Box 561

Newmanstown, PA 17073

## **A TRIBUTE TO MY FATHER**

My father's name was Theodore Myers and my mother's name was Cevilla. He was born in Rome City, Indiana. She was born in Franklin County, Pennsylvania.

Early in life each came to Ohio to obtain employment.

The powers to be, by destiny, found them employed by the same family, father's married sister.



Romance began, which led to marriage. In the course of time their children were born, a son (myself) and two sisters.

Father had a hard start in life. When he was eight days old, his mother passed away. A woman by the name of Libby Birch, (I do not know if she was a relative or not) cared for him. She was very kind to him. In time his father remarried, and he returned home.

His step mother was very unkind to the step children. She repeatedly punished them without cause. For instance, if they had company for a meal she forewarned them not to take a piece of pie. Father said in the presence of company she would insist that he take a piece. If he didn't, she would put a piece on his plate and said, "Eat it." If he did the company would hardly be gone until she gave him a hard whipping. They would complain to their father, he was sympathetic but could not change her.

Father had a brother by the name of Heram. Because of the ill treatment, he left home and for many years no one heard from him. One day he knocked on father's door and they were glad to see each other.

Father also had two sisters. Over a period of time they married.

Before marriage father worked on a farm as a hired man. His pay was \$100.00 a season from spring until harvest was over. In that time he withdrew \$3.00 for clothes, receiving \$97.00 at the end of harvest.

Much more could be written about his early life. One thing certainly can be said of dad, he was a kind, loving, Christian father. He was a self-made man.

He accepted Christ as his savior and lived, (not just professed) the Christian life. He was a good Bible student. He taught Sunday school, was a deacon, then elected to the ministry and ordained as an Elder. He served on various Boards in the Church.

He farmed in the summer time and worked in coal mines during the winter months. One mine father worked at, the operator would be drunk and the mine could not operate. The owner of the land canceled his lease. He asked father to take over the mine. He did and was successful. When all the recoverable coal was mined he opened another mine. At the last mine, I was a partner. I will never forget the articles of partnership agreed on, nothing in writing, just an oral agreement. He stated that he would be responsible for all activities underground in producing the coal. I was to assume every phase of the business above ground. This included bookkeeping, serving the customers, paymaster, filing all government reports, doing

the banking, and many other phases of a retail business. Thus we operated for ten years.

At one of the mines, he bought forty acres. When he decided to quit coal mining, he bought a tractor and equipment and farmed the forty acres. He previously had planted an orchard on most of it. Many acres were planted in sweet corn. Early apples ripened about the same time corn was to be picked.

Father had an order for the first ripe apples of the season. He climbed to the top of the ladder to reach the nicest apples. The ladder turned. He fell to the ground, breaking his back. A doctor and an ambulance were called for. He was taken to the hospital where he remained for sixteen weeks.

The neighbors and church members, my sisters, my mother, and I finished the harvesting of the apples, sweet corn, potatoes and so forth. Father, now, an invalid, sold the forty acres. Not only did his injury prevent him from farming, but had a great effect on his ministerial work. Not only did father claim Christianity, he lived it every day of his life. I, briefly, will give some of my observations of his ways of life.

In measuring, when selling anything, he abided by the scripture as recorded in Luke 6:38. He also abided by the golden rule, "Do unto others as you would have others do unto you", as recorded in Luke 6:37.

The golden rule was his policy in every deed and action in life. A heart attack at 69 years ended his life here on earth. His funeral was the largest congregation of people ever assembled in our church.

His Son,

The Late Brother Paul R. Myers

## **ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE**

### **Contemporary Christian Music**

(The following article is a summary of the lecture on music at the 1995 Youth Retreat in Colorado. I pray that it will help you in answering questions in regard to the selection of Christian music to which you listen.)

Remember, the devil is crafty. He is the great deceiver. He knows most Christians would not be taken in by obvious deviations from the truth. So, he sneaks in in a pair of blue jeans and sneakers. Young people, sometimes it seems that some people turn to Christ as a result of Contemporary Christian Music. I would like to raise some questions as to the accuracy of that statement in this article. You can



not reach unsaved youth, or any people, with Satan's tactics. Satan is totally opposed to the things of the Spirit of God. A blind person cannot appreciate a beautiful sunset and an unbeliever cannot comprehend music about God. Music is ultimately not for outreach. It is for the enjoyment of the Body of Christ. The Body of Christ has been dragged back into the bush and we must realize that. As saved people, we need to raise our voices against evil and for the glory of God. May God save us from this age of God defying music.

The New Age has come in on us like an unstoppable, monstrous, bone-crushing steamroller. Its intent is to wipe Bible believing Christianity off the face of the earth and replace it with a satanically controlled, one world government. Because Satan cannot gain the all out worship he desires from every living human being until the last steadfast and uncompromising Christian has been destroyed, he is working hard to reach into the Church.

Contemporary music is molding the modern Church as much as any force in the world today. It is changing ideas, doctrines and beliefs. The song lyrics are the end result of Satan's long term master plan to dishonor Jesus Christ.

The modern Church is in confusion, split by division, and tight lipped about the truth. Christian Contemporary Music is partly the cause. Satan knows you are the key to a Christian future and that popular music is the charm to spiritually destroy you. It is clothed in snappy Christian "catch-phrases" and is guaranteed to appeal to your sensual nature.

An anti-Contemporary Christian Music stand is probably the most unpopular view any servant of God can take today. But the Bible says the "Time will come when church members will not endure sound doctrine. Instead they will heap on themselves teachers having itching ears and they will turn their ears from the truth and will turn to fables." (My paraphrase.)

I want to share some popular reasons I hear cited to show that Christian Contemporary Music can and should be used to evangelize the lost and entertain the believer.

Now, remember, we know what has happened in secular music. It has enslaved the souls of millions of people. Remember, too, that Christian Contemporary Music is full of fleshly, worldly, musical styles. It sounds very noble and idealistic. Of course, Col. 5:16 says, "There is a way that seemeth right to us...but it ends in death."

Reason 1: No one should judge another person's music or ministry. Of course this is based on Matt. 7:1-2. (Judge not!) Christian Contemporary Music defenders love these verses because they are supposed to shut down any and all criticism of their music. However, Christians in this case need to judge! Proverbs 21:15 says,



"It is joy to the just to do judgment..." Matthew 7 is talking about people, not music. To evaluate Contemporary Christian Music is to judge righteous judgment. It means to care about another's soul.

Reason 2: The Bible says we can play our music loud, right? After all, doesn't it say in Psalm 33:1-3, "Sing unto him a new song; play skillfully with a loud noise?" Believe me, there is a big difference between loud as used in this passage and the ear bleeding, painful noise of this electronic age. The Contemporary Christian Music person desires to shake you with the amplified roar of rock guitars, drums and the like. Music can be 110 decibels. This certainly does not bring praise to God when it can damage the 8th cranial nerve and cause partial hearing loss. The Holy Spirit must be grieved as He endures this chaotic noise.

The Word talks about a "New Song." Is Christian Contemporary Music the new song or is it the same old junk food of the mod music industry wrapped up in something that looks religious? When it talks of being skillful in the Word, I have to think of how many performers who really are quite unable to play anything but the eight basic chords.

Reason 3: I have to be like the world to save the world! This might well be the worse statement of all. Paul was made all things to all men that he might by all means save some...(I Cor. 9:22). Did Paul become an alcoholic to win the drunkards at the pagan feasts? Did he wallow in sexual sin so he could better present the gospel to the temple harlots? Did he swear and curse like the foul mouthed sailors at the docks so he could become one of the boys and win some of them? No! He followed the scripture, "Be ye holy, for I am holy."

Let me make this clear. Sin is sin. Nowhere in the Bible does God ever condone sinning to win a person to Christ. We can preach to the drunk in the bar, but can we participate with him? We can reach out to draw sinners from the mudholes of life, but we do not need to jump in and wallow with them. Jesus never did that. Neither are we to do it.

Reason 4: Christian Contemporary Music is a neutral force. It can be either good or bad, depending on how you use it. Satan loves this concept. That "force" says there is a neutral power within all of nature that can be directed by the person controlling it. That is like witchcraft either being black or white. Actually, both are from Satan. God beheld and saw only the good in Genesis....no neutral ground was there for God...no fence riders.

To be continued  
Brother Len Wertz

## WE ARE JOURNEYING UNTO THE PLACE

Numbers 10:29-30, "And Moses said unto Hobab, the son of Raguel the Midianite, Moses' father in law, We are journeying unto the place of which the Lord said, I will give it you: come thou with us, and we will do thee good: for the Lord hath spoken good concerning Israel. And he said unto him, I will not go; but I will depart to mine own land, and to my kindred."

Colossians 2:6, "As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him."

Many, more eloquent and wiser than myself, have described the Christian life as a journey. The fact that the Bible is our road map has been expressed in poetry, prose and song. It is not our desire to compete with these works of wisdom, but to humbly share what we feel the Lord has laid on our heart.

Like the Israelites of old, our Brethren forefathers did not have the luxury of having motels, fast food places and fine restaurants when they took a long journey. The mode of travel also made what we consider a short pleasure trip a major venture. They had to carry their provisions and necessities along with them.

They also deemed themselves to be on a spiritual journey. They desired to reach "the place of which the Lord said, I will give it you." Ultimately this would be Heaven. But our Brethren forefathers also believed that they were taking a spiritual journey that would lead them to the perfect will of God for their life.

As they journeyed, they invited others to "come thou with us, and we will do thee good." There is a difference of opinion among historians as to whether or not our Brethren forefathers believed that they would be the only ones in Heaven. If, in fact, they did believe this we believe they were in error on this point. But we believe that they had something valuable to share with those with whom they came into contact.

Our desire today should be to invite others to join us in our spiritual journey. The start of this journey must be at the blood stained, Old Rugged Cross, that we sing about sometimes. There we are washed clean and given new garments for our journey. As we read in Revelation 7:14, "...These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb."

The journey starts at the cross, but it does not end there. As we are instructed in Colossians (and other portions of Scripture) "As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him."

It appears that our Brethren faith is becoming a thing of the past with the majority of those who name Alexander Mack as their founder. If our historical traditions are nothing but excess baggage we should have no fear at their being cast aside. But we, personally, believe



they hold much more importance than they are normally given. They gave those who wished to join in the journey something with which to identify. Certainly there will be those who believe and teach that our works have nothing to do with our salvation. At one time it was only those who held to unconditional eternal security that stressed this. Today it is hard to find a group that does not label all works as legalism.

Many times it starts with traditions that are not found in Scripture. And we do have to be careful with man made traditions. But when so called man made traditions were cast aside it was not long until such things as the prayer veil, nonconformity to the world in dress and avoiding all appearance of evil in worldly pleasures was labeled "man made traditions." Did we really gain in our spiritual journey by casting Brethren tradition aside?

If you have never started on the journey to Heaven we invite you to start by repentance, trine immersion baptism and joining our Dunkard Brethren Church.

Brother James M. Hite  
816 E. Birch St.  
Palmyra, PA 17078-2704

### **TRAMPLED UNDER FOOT**

"Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you." Matt. 7:6.

I was quite moved recently when I read again a familiar portion of God's Word, namely First Corinthians, chapter four. In it, Paul reproves the boasting of the Corinthians. He says, we are fools for Christ's sake, but you (meaning the Corinthians) are wise. We are weak, but you are strong. We are despised, but you are honorable. We hunger and thirst and are beaten, and have no certainty of a roof over our head. We labor, we are reviled, but in all these things we are not destroyed but rather we honor and glorify God.

Paul, as an Apostle, visited the churches in Europe and Asia to instruct them in the things of the Lord. It had been a while since Paul had visited Corinth, and they began to say, "Paul has not deemed it necessary to visit us, so we must be doing everything right." They began to get proud of themselves, yet they were full of sin and did not see it.

So often we have to be reminded of our faults, but many take the wrong attitude. It happens in both directions. The one instructing often has the "Gotcha" attitude, pleased that he has caught someone in sin. The instructed one often misinterprets the actions of the instructor and has the "why am I being picked on" attitude.

Paul's reputation was being destroyed by the Corinthians yet he



continued on. In Second Thessalonians he said, "...be not shaken in mind,...and stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught..." (chapter 2, verses 2 and 15). He could tell us because all these things he had mentioned in I Cor. 4 had happened to him and he had overcome them. He knew, of all people, that we WILL be reviled for the cause of Christ, often by those that call themselves Christians. It is not a question of "if," but a question of "when".

We must be careful, as Paul tells us again in Philipians 3:2, of dogs. Christ warned us about the giving what is holy to the dogs, in Matthew 7:6. These dogs are those who use the Gospel for their own selfish motives and destroy the testimony of Christ for others. We must be constantly on the alert not to cast the Gospel before those who do not understand its value. Here we must be in tune with God so we can allow the Holy Spirit to guide us to whom we should share the Gospel. Those who belittle the Gospel will be those who try to destroy us.

It is wrong for us to purposely invite persecution that we may glory in it. It is proper for us to glorify God in all that we do. If we are persecuted, we must stand fast.

Brother Lynn H. Miller  
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Newmanstown, PA 17073

## **SIXTY YEARS AGO**

August 15, 1935

### **SLEEPING SICKNESS**

J. D. Brown

For several years now, we have what they call sleeping sickness, going around. People apparently just go to sleep in good health, and sleep for months, and sometimes years.

We noticed in the papers some time ago, a case in Chicago, where a girl has been sleeping now for three years.

This is typical of the spiritual sickness that is going around in the world today. People in apparently good spiritual health, go to sleep spiritually. Men who once had their spiritual eyes wide open to spiritual things today have them closed.

Even Elders who have had the oversight of churches for several years, who were able at one time to oversee and direct the church in a spiritual way, today are asleep on the job, not able to see or to give dependable advice. It seems that it has always been that way, even when Christ was here, the apostles went to sleep on duty.

(Matt. 26:38-45) Jesus just before He was betrayed asked the apostles, "Watch while I go yonder and pray." On His return He found them asleep. He went the second time to pray, when He came back

they were asleep. He went the third time and they were asleep again.

Think of the circumstances under which they went to sleep, Jesus was about to be put to death, looking for the enemy to come at any time and now He asks them to watch, and they went to sleep. So it is today, He has chosen men through the church for that very same purpose, to watch for the enemy, and they go to sleep, today just as they did in that time, with all the information Jesus has given, He has warned His people the time would come, when false prophets would rise up in the church and deceive the very elect if possible, yet men and women will go to sleep.

(Matt. 13:25-26) But while men slept the enemy came and sowed tares, (tares represent the ungodly) among the wheat, (wheat represents the people of God) and went his way. V. 26. But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also. (Tares, false prophets.) That time did come, and while his watchmen were asleep, those false prophets came up in the church and broke the church seal. (Eph. 4:30)

Like the Ark, the church was sealed, on the inside and on the outside; sealed on the inside to keep the things inside that were inside, and sealed on the outside to keep the things outside that were outside.

These false prophets took possession and broke the seal. At the beginning the opening was very small, we could hardly notice that it had any effect on the church but as time went on the opening became larger until Satan crept in, sowed ungodliness, sowed things to satisfy the flesh, the members of the church became lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God—began to seek places of amusements, card parties, dance halls, shows, swimming pools, big feasts, buy and sell for gain (Luke 19:45), pride, gold, costly array, bobbed hair, powdered face, short skirts, low necked dresses, neckties, secret societies, politics and now everything that the world indulges in, is in the church, (James 1:27). Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this: To visit the fatherless and widows in their afflictions and to keep himself unspotted from the world.

That is not all, but the things inside the church crept out. Church ordinances crept out of the church; salutation, prayer veil, Lord's supper, feet washing, baptism, nonconformity. Satan formed a circuit, passed right through the church and drove the things God had placed in the church for the salvation of man, right out of the church.

Our duty is to come out from among them.

(II Cor. 6:14-18) "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers; for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? and what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?"



And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? For ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them; and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

"Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and will be a father unto you, and ye shall be My sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty."

"For the heart of this people is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes have they closed, lest they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their hearts, and should be converted, and I should heal them." (Acts 28:27.)

## OUR SATURDAY NIGHT

### The Mistake

J. H. Moore

I once made my home in a family for several weeks—where everything, to all appearances went like clockwork. The family was composed of parents and two sons. They lived on one of the best improved farms in the country. The father was known far and wide as the model farmer of that part of the State. Not one thing was allowed to remain out of order on his premises. Every building and fence was kept in the very best state of repair. He had a place for each tool, and when not in use it had to be there. So far as orderly farming was concerned, he made it a decided success.

He was noted as a strict church member, and it had to be very bad weather indeed if he was not found at his place in church. He was as strict with his boys as he was with himself. They not only had to attend church and Sunday School as regularly as the Lord's Day came around, but the Sunday had to be spent in each particular as he directed. His word was law, and it was the law that he did not hesitate to enforce whenever occasion demanded it. For miles around no boys seemed so well trained as these two farm boys. Under their father's ever watchful eye they kept within the bounds of propriety.

Everybody congratulated the intelligent and successful farmer for his success in raising an industrious and Christian family. Not a few envied him, and wished they could exert over their children the influence which he seemed to have over his. He was not only pronounced a model farmer, but he was regarded as a wise and most successful parent. In the minds of most of his neighbors he was making family discipline a success in every particular.

The years went rapidly by, and the boys soon reached manhood. When they were twenty-one years old they felt that they were no



more under their father. To them it was a decided relief. In a little while they were regarded as the wildest boys in the neighborhood. They became positively reckless. This surprised the parents no less than it surprised most people of the neighborhood. To them it became quite apparent that the man who had made a success as a farmer was a failure in his own household. He knew how to compel his boys to obey every word that came from his lips, but he knew not how to develop them. He succeeded in ruling them, but he had not trained them. Under his eyes they knew how to behave themselves, but when once cut loose from his authority they knew no restraint.

Other parents are making the same mistake with their children. They think that enforced, ironclad rules settle the whole question. They exact the strictest obedience, never once seeming to realize that cold, formal rules, as compared with intelligent training, are of no lasting value. Had this farmer spent more time developing his boys, and less with his fine set of rules, the results might have been different. The principles of doing right should have been more thoroughly fixed in the minds of the boys, so that, when they grew to manhood, they would know how to apply them. The boys had been taught how to obey rules, but they had never been taught how to govern themselves.

No one ever saw this stern father engage in an interesting conversation with his boys. He never consulted them, nor did he try to get them specially interested in his business. It was his privilege, so he thought, to command, and it was the boys' duty to obey. He did the commanding, the boys did the obeying, for they did not dare to do otherwise; but the results in the end were sad to contemplate. Every parent has a right to rule his children—in fact, it is his duty—but what is government without development? It is the father that gets close to the hearts of his children who makes family government a success. He requires obedience, but he thinks more of development and growth along right lines. It is what his children will be when they leave the parental roof that most concerns him. In the beginning he commences their training with the view of making men and women who will be a credit to their parents as well as a credit to the church and to the community.

## **NEWS ITEMS**

### **PLEVNA, INDIANA**

The Plevna Congregation invites you to their Fall Revival, September 3 through 10, 1995. Elder Fred Pifer from Dallas Center, Iowa will be the evangelist. Lovefeast services begin at 2:00 P.M., September 9, with Communion at 7:00 P.M. Other evening services begin at 7:30.

We invite all to these services.

Sister Verda Lorenz, Cor.

## BETHEL, PENNSYLVANIA

The Bethel Congregation is looking forward to our fall Revival, September 10 through 17. The Lord willing Bro. Tom St. John will be with us. Come and worship with us. Pray we all grow more like the Master.

Sister Fern Wolf, Cor.

## CONFERENCE TAPES ATTENTION

Someone borrowed tape #1 (the master tape). Would you please return it to Vera Pike as soon as possible. I cannot make copies until I have it. Thanks.

Preaching tapes are available again this year, by contacting Vera Pike, 12967 SH 108, Wauseon, OH 43567. Telephone (419) 337-6251 daytime hours 9:00 A.M.- 1:00 P.M. EST and weekends, anytime. They are \$2.00 a piece plus postage if I have to mail them. I will send the bill with your tapes. Thank you.

Please order by NUMBER #

- #1 Len Wertz — "A Pentecostal Experience"  
Wayne Burgess — "Yielding to the Spirit's Influence"
- #2 William Carpenter — "Confusion"  
Rudy Cover — "Being Alive in 95"
- #3 Milton Cook — "The One Needful Thing"  
Dale Jamison — "Know Your Opponent"
- #4 Ray Reed — "Spirit of Non Resistance"  
Henry Walker — "Core Belief"
- #5 Mark Cordrey — "Savior or Savior and Lord"  
Merle Switzer — "Pilgrims and Strangers"
- #6 Rod Renicker — "You're Rich"  
Ron Marks — "Bringing Glory to God"
- #7 Fred Pifer — "The Gulf, The Gap and The Governor"  
Len Wertz — "Burnout"
- #8 Paul Stump — "Africa" MISSION  
Mike Wray — "The Soul of the Missionary"

## THANK YOU

I would like to express my thanks for the lovely cards and notes received on my birthday, June 30. They were inspiring and encouraging.

Sister Verda Lorenz

## **ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR SEPTEMBER 1995**

September 3 - God calls Moses to the Mount - Exodus 24:1-18.

1. What is the blood of the covenant with us today?
2. Moses had written all the words of the Lord in the Book of the Covenant, why the tables of stone?

September 10 - Plans for the Ark - Exodus 25:1-40.

1. What was God's purpose for the sanctuary?
2. Explain the purpose of the ark and its lid.

September 17 - The Tabernacle - Exodus 26:1-37.

1. Why did God give such detailed instructions for building the Tabernacle?
2. Explain the purpose and symbolism of the veil.

September 24 - The Altar - Exodus 27:1-21.

1. For what was the Brass Altar to be used?
2. Why was the lamp to burn always?

## **YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR SEPTEMBER 1995**

September 3 - Sleep - Mark 13:33-37, Rom. 13:10-14, Eph. 5:14-17, I Thess. 5:5-10.

1. Why is not sleep a form of spiritual rejuvenation?
2. Explain how the word, "watch" means more than to look at something.

September 10 - Young Man's Fall - Acts 20:1-12, I Cor. 10:1-12.

1. Spiritual sleep will lead to what kind of fall?
2. How can we fall even while thinking we will not fail?

September 17 - Leaven - Matt. 16:1-12, Gal. 5:1-9.

1. What was the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees?
2. How much sin (leaven) does it take to leaven the whole person?

September 24 - The Fig Tree - Matt. 21:17-22, Mark 11:11-24.

1. In our spiritual life, what are the leaves?
2. In our spiritual life, can we have fruit without leaves?



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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXXIII

SEPTEMBER 1, 1995

NO. 17

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## GRACE 'TIS A MOST DELIGHTFUL THEME

Grace, 'tis a most delightful theme:

'Tis grace that rescues guilty man,  
'Tis grace divine, all-conq'ring, free,  
Or it had never rescu'd me.

'Twis grace that quicken'd me when dead,  
And grace my soul to Jesus led;  
Grace brought me pardon for my sin,  
And grace subdues my lust within.

'Tis grace that sweetens ev'ry cross,  
And grace supports in ev'ry loss;  
In Jesus' grace my soul is strong;  
Grace is my shield, and grace my song.

'Tis grace defends when danger's near,  
By grace alone I persevere;  
'Tis grace constrains my soul to love,  
And grace will bear me safe above.

## THE GRACE OF GOD

The grace of God is totally undeserved. Grace, by definition, is undeserved. Grace is not a reward, a payment, or wages. Without the Grace of God, there would be no hope for any person living in this world. Being human, we do not understand how God could offer His Grace to us. The fact remains that He has.

We recognize God's Grace being shown to us through the gift of His Son, Jesus Christ. He gave His Only Begotten Son, not because we deserved that gift, but because He loved His highest creation, human beings. His love was grieved at the inability of humans to save themselves. Actually, humans were not very interested in trying to approach God. As a whole, they did not want to be a part of His family. This grieved God. He had created men in His own image that they might be a part of His family. However their earthly desires overwhelmed whatever Spiritual desires they may have had. God wanted them for His own.

There was no other way available for Him to bring them back to Him. He must give His Son as a ransom for their sins. Their sins were not only the evil deeds that they had done, but also their unwillingness to obey or honor God. Their sin disqualified them from being a part of His family. Their own deeds or the deeds of others could not avail because all were sinners, so could not offer that sinless sacrifice demanded by the justice of God. The only ransom acceptable was the sinless sacrifice of His Son. By His Grace He was willing to offer that one and only ransom. He gave His Son, though undeserved and unappreciated. God's Grace prevailed to

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**THE BIBLE MONITOR****SEPTEMBER 1, 1995**

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offer the one effective sacrifice for fallen men.

Jesus came to do His Father's will. He not only humbled Himself to live as a man amongst men. He was a willing perfect sacrifice offered as a ransom for the human race. He was born of a virgin, impregnated by the Holy Spirit. He served mankind through teaching and healing and by pointing His hearers to God. He served by being obedient to His Father. He became the perfect sacrifice, unavailable otherwise. God was willing to give His Son. Although when the time came for Jesus to bare the sins of all humans upon the cross the Father brought darkness upon the Earth to shroud the view of His Son as a sinner. The resurrection was proof of the Father's acceptance of His sacrifice. The price had been paid. Jesus came forth from the tomb in victory over death, hell and the grave. The power of sin was broken. Men who accepted the work done by Jesus could escape the final power of sin. By God's Grace, this remedy was now available.

God is gracious not only to provide the way of salvation, but to provoke individuals to consider the advisability of accepting the proffered hope. God's Spirit does call and plead with humans to accept God's Grace. They have eternal life offered to them, but it awaits their acceptance. A gift is not a gift until it is accepted. We hear of rare occasions when riches are refused although offered freely.

There is a story of a man who lived in the early days of the American Republic. He had committed a crime worthy of death. His friends interceded with President Jefferson to pardon him. Finally he agreed to give the pardon. When the pardon was offered to the guilty one, he refused it. His refusal became a case for the courts to decide. It finally was decided that because he refused the pardon, he would have to suffer the original punishment. He died because he turned down the President's pardon. This is too often the case with many today. They have been offered pardon through the Grace of God, but they have refused it.

God created people having the power of choice. Man was created in God's image. God certainly has the power of choice. Jesus, the Son of God, made the choice to do His Father's will. He had a will and the adopted children of God also have a will. They have a choice to make.

The Grace of God is not a good luck charm. It does not necessarily deliver us from our poor judgment and actions. We can be thankful that God is not vindictive like men. He does expend His



Grace to deliver us from many situations. There are other times when He allows us to taste the fruit of some of our misdeeds. This also is His Grace demonstrated. He is teaching us a lesson that will be beneficial, so we will not fall into that misdeed again.

Without God's Grace we would have no hope or happiness. To be fully effective in our lives we must allow Him to direct our lives. His Grace is ever available, needing only our acceptance and practice.

Have you received the proffered Grace of God?

M.C.Cook

### **WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO THE SIMPLE "NO?"**

Matthew 5:37, "But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay; for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil."

Most of us have had the trying experience of a telephone call with a salesman on the other end who will not take a simple "no" for an answer. There have been actual harassment charges taken to court over this type of thing. While we are not sure this is the correct thing to do, we have simply hung up on an overzealous sales person. This is not something entirely new. There have always been salesmen who knock on the door (although they are few in number anymore in our area). For some reason the phone call salesman is even more irritating to us. We are not sure how this relates to the rest of our thoughts, but it was such an experience that caused us to ask the question, "What ever happened to the simple 'No'?"

There was the time that a simple "no" was all that was needed to correct a small child (along with the rod of correction at times). By the time the child reached the age of understanding right from wrong, a simple "no" was often all that was needed. But within the last twenty-five or so years this has completely changed. Parents were told they should have a clinical and psychological reason to give their children for saying "no." "Because I said so," may not have been the most profound way to say "no", but it did carry the authority of the parent with it. Today the authority of the parent in all too many homes is nonexistent. We realize that child abuse is a problem in today's world. There have always been those who were not able to distinguish between corrective and abusive practices. There, very well, may have been good reasons for child protection laws to be put into place and agencies set up to investigate child abuse. But when the state government replaces the parent as the authority figure things have gotten out of hand in our opinion. When a child can question the "no" of a parent by legal means we may very well be

setting ourselves up for real problems.

The laws of the land are rapidly changing because someone questions the authoritative "no." This, also, is not entirely new and perhaps not entirely bad. Such laws as the segregation laws were definitely wrong. The push to legalize drugs (although the most used drug, alcohol, has been legal for some time now) the abortion laws (or lack of them) and laws that pamper the criminal and make it difficult for the victim are all a result of a different understanding of saying a simple "no." We are not encouraging the Church to become involved in political action to make "good" laws but we believe we can see the results of a lenient society.

The earthly Church has seen amazing changes in the last few years due to the fact that a simple "no" is no longer permissible. We have indicated before that we appreciate the fact of willingness to change some things within the church polity. Now it seems to be speedily coming to the place that a "no" given by elected church officials is simply ignored. Any rules and regulations are simply shrugged off as legalism.

To hear some individuals speak you would think that God never uttered a "no" in the entire pages of the Bible, the written Word of God. The "thou shalt nots" of the Ten Commandments are being explained away one by one by the modern church it would seem. At least they no longer hold the authority they once did. It is true that we are under grace and not under the law. All but one of the Ten Commandments were repeated in the New Testament and strengthened by our Lord. We believe even the commandment concerning keeping the Sabbath day holy is to be observed on Sunday. The weak and rebellious Church of our present day (as a whole) we are convinced is a direct result of refusal to recognize God's "NO" found in Holy Scripture.

Will you not say "yes" to the call of Christ on your heart if you have not responded to this call? Then be willing to obey the "NOES" of Holy Scripture.

Brother James M. Hite  
816 E. Birch St.  
Palmyra, PA 17078-2704

## **A TRIBUTE TO MY MOTHER**

### **"My Mothers' Kitchen"**

My father and mother were Theodore and Cevilla Myers.

My mother lived ninety-three years. At ninety-one, I well remember the abundance, variety and quality of food mother prepared and served her family.

General stores in her time handled only the bare essentials

compared to what the supermarkets stock today. We, a family of five, lived on a small acreage. We raised our own vegetables. We also had a few apple, peach, pear and cherry trees that supplied fruit for our needs. We kept a cow for our dairy needs, and a small flock of chickens. We fattened and butchered several hogs each year for our meat supply.

Father was the provider and mother the preparer of our three daily meals. She had a talent for cooking and baking. She passed that talent to my two sisters who could prepare sumptuous meals also.

Mother's time was used to prepare, preserve and serve delicious nourishing foods taking advantage of all in-season vegetables, fruits, and so forth.

Nearly a century ago, freezing was unknown as a means of preserving foods. Canning, drying and salting were the means of preserving. They worked.

Cut up fruit, green beans, cut off sweetcorn and other foods were dried to preserve.

Meat, especially pork, was either packed in salt or stored in a heavy salt water brine. Eggs were preserved by keeping them immersed in water glass.

Dairy products were kept in a bucket, lowered in a dug well or kept in a spring if there was one handy. Otherwise there was considerable spoilage.

In the fall, after harvest, mother would dry and brown ear corn in the oven. When ready, it was shelled and taken to the mill to be ground into cornmeal. Mother would cook up a batch, pour it into pans, where it would set up firm. We called it mush.

Cornmeal was used to make corn pone. Also, cornmeal cooked with the broth left from cooking the pudding meat made a good breakfast food called "scrapple" or sometimes called "paunhaus".

When raspberries, strawberries, blueberries and so forth were in season, they were picked and brought into mother's kitchen. Her creative hand produced jams, jellies, shortcake, pies, tarts and many other goodies. If she had more than could be used at the time, she preserved them for future use.

Following butchering day we had several large cans of lard. None was sold. It was used in cooking, frying and other ways. Mother claimed that lard made better pie crust than any other shortening.

A hot kettle of lard was the means of making good donuts and potato chips. Mother made a batter which, when dropped by the spoonful into the hot lard, produced what were called "frogs". They were very tasty when eaten with syrup. Large spoonfuls would make big hollow "frogs". Mother would cut them open and fill them with a sweet white filling and we would have cream puffs for dessert at our next meal.



After butchering and the choice meat was preserved by salt or salt brine, hams, side meat (bacon) and some of the sausage was smoked.

Mother still had a lot to do following butchering. Lacking electric refrigerators and freezers, she would fry sausage and other cuts, put the cooked meat in gallon crocks and fill the crock with hot lard. That meat was preserved that way until used up. Mother would clean the pigs feet and make "souse" which was very tasty.

Mother would clean the pig's stomachs. At a later time she would make a filling of diced potatoes, cut up fresh sausage meat, a little onion, salt and pepper and stuff the pig stomach. This was put in the hot oven and baked until nice and brown and well done. Thick slices became the main entree for a delicious meal, nowhere obtainable but from a farm kitchen or a woman versed in farm kitchen cooking.

When apple harvest was over, we would have an apple snitzing party. Neighbors would come in to peel and cut up apples in preparation to cooking applebutter.

The cut up apples along with sugar and seasoning were put in a big butchering kettle and set in a three legged stand. The fire was stoked to keep the kettle boiling. The contents had to be stirred continuously until the applebutter was of the right consistency.

Fresh applebuttered bread topped with smearcase (cottage cheese) made for very good eating.

Mother canned hundreds of quarts of meat, fruits and vegetables. She made and canned vegetable soup for winter use.

At Christmas time her kitchen became a candy factory. Peanut brittle, fudge, sea-foam, orientals and popcorn balls were some of her goodies.

Besides her kitchen output, she found time to crochet bedspreads, curtains, many doilies and three large 3 foot by 5 foot Bible subjects. My two sisters and I had a wonderful mother and father.

Their son,

The Late Brother Paul R. Myers

## ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

### Contemporary Christian Music

#### Part II

Reason 5: We have to use Contemporary Christian Music to reach out to lost young people because that is the language they understand today. God help us! Christian music is becoming more accepted by the general public than ever before BECAUSE it is what they are used to listening to. Amy Grant would be a good example of this. It is a lot easier to get a Contemporary Christian Music loving non-christian believing friend to listen to Christian Contemporary

Music than to have them listen to hymns and praise music. People talk about having to apologize for "plain gospel" music...and that is very sad. The Bible says if we are ashamed of the Lord in our generation, Jesus will be ashamed of us when He comes in the glory of His Father with the Holy Angels. (Mark 8:38)

Young people, there are scriptural limits to our evangelism. We are not to convert at any price and use the beat to bait and reel people in. If Contemporary Christian Music is such a great conversion tool, why is there no mention of it in the Bible? How did young people get saved centuries before Contemporary Christian Music was around? There was 2,000 years of successful soul winning before now. Yes...music is powerful...but preaching is ordained to save souls, not drums and tambourines. Timothy and Silas did not get down and boogie to rustle up some converts in Ephesus and Philippi. Music was not an evangelistic tool.

Reason 6: Contemporary Christian Music makes you feel good. How can it be wrong? Wow, have you ever heard this question before? This is a perverted philosophy and it is big in the church today. The fear of God is going and only His love is preached. Our mind set focuses on love, "Jesus loves you...and we love you too." Contemporary Christian Music is largely responsible for this.

Deut. 5:29 talks of a people with a heart that would fear God and keep all of His commandments...always...that it might be well with them and their children forever. Very few songs talk about commitment and a Christless eternity without it. They seem to see dancing saints before the judgment seat of God with raised hands or clinched fists.

Reason 7: But kids are getting saved through Contemporary Christian Music. How can we condemn that? How crass it is to fire up gullible audiences with high powered electronic equipment and hit them with an altar call. We are to come to Him with humbled and broken spirits, hearts heavy with a hateful knowledge of sin. Singing idols create emotion...little conviction. Where are the millions saved through this medium? Are the churches getting fuller from these concerts? Where are they in our own beloved church? Are your peers showing spiritual depth and growth as a result of Contemporary Christian Music? Or...are they entertained? Where is the Contemporary Christian Music CRUSH in the Dunkard Brethren Church?

John 12:32 says, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me." I would say that the entertainer is usually the one that is lifted up. If an individual wants to sing and praise God without great glory...super! But ticket prices show where the real priority is!

Reason 8: Even the Apostle Paul said nothing was unclean of itself. Contemporary Christian Music is just a different style. There is



nothing wrong with it. (They use Romans 14:14.) Well, that statement has an easy answer. The Bible teaches us what is unclean or untouchable. These are the works of the flesh. Contemporary Christian Music, which is following the lead of rock and pop music...is not fully clean.

Reason 9: God can use anything to reach souls...so why can't He use Contemporary Christian Music or Christian rock? I agree! GOD CAN DO ANYTHING HE PLEASES. But He calls us to maintain our holiness and separation from the world. When Contemporary Christian Music groups have the same hairstyles as the world, the same outfits, same jewelry, same concerts, same light shows, same dance routines, same fog machines and accompaniment as secular music groups...then they are presenting an appearance of evil. Contemporary Christian Music reflects the world and if you love it...you better take a look at your attitude toward your love of the world.

To be continued  
Brother Len Wertz

## **SPIRITUAL GLEANINGS FROM THE GARDEN**

Everyone here in the country and mountains has been busy between showers trying to plant their gardens. God formed Adam and Eve perfectly, like all of His work. He placed them in a perfect place and occupation, which was in a garden, to plant, cultivate and enjoy. They applied themselves to nurturing and caring for the plants, not only for food, but for a wholesome, clean and pure mind. Then, when the day's work was done, they leisurely walked through the garden admiring the vegetation, fruits, vegetables, flowers and trees, listening to the warble, whistles, chirps and so forth of the happy birds, with animals of all types roaming the garden (they were not wild and ferocious then). This was a perfect setting for the Lord to come walk and talk with them. You say "wonderful, fantastic, but that was some far off distant age."

I realize that was before sin entered this world. The Lord still speaks to us today if we will listen to the still small voice that tells us what we shall or shall not do. He says in Mal. 3:6 "For I am the Lord, I change not..." We are the ones who have changed. Mal. 3:7, "Even from the days of your fathers ye are gone away from mine ordinances, and have not kept them. Return unto me, and I will return unto you, saith the Lord of hosts. But ye said, Wherein shall we return?" If we will obey Him by doing His will in yieldedness of heart and give Him a quiet time of meditation instead of ever rushing around trying to pacify the lust of the eye, the lust of the flesh and the pride of life. Personally I really enjoy the garden, it seems to be the place nearest to God and where He seems the nearest to me.



The New Testament writers mention a number of times that Jesus and the apostles spent nights and even longer in prayer in the wilderness, in the desert and in the garden. When Jesus was about to shed His blood to cover the sin of all humanity He went to the garden where He was close to the Father.

I have learned many spiritual lessons from the garden. The garden must be planted at the right season, if too early it will freeze, too late the crop will not mature by harvest time. So must we be alert to encourage and strengthen those in need spiritually at the time the Spirit is drawing them. Without God's help we can do nothing.

The garden must be planned when we plant it. If we plant cucumbers together with muskmelons they mix and the good taste is destroyed. So must the Christian not keep company with those who would mar our Christian graces. It has been said that we become a part of all we meet. Thereby we may be lured away from God and fall from grace. Then we can become entangled in Satan's net of deception and very possibly eternally damned.

We are living in an age when people are reading and overlooking many commandments and duties mentioned in the scriptures then saying "they are no longer required, it is not done that way any more, or we do not need to do that, it is not necessary," and so forth. Dear reader, God says in Mal. 3:6, "I change not." He fulfilled the sacrificial laws of pardon by sending His Son as a sacrifice for all humanity if we accept and obey His commandments. His laws to live by still stand. If we have sin in our heart, even though we do not commit the sin we are still guilty. Rom. 1:31. "Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law." Please read Matthew 5 slowly, carefully, thoughtfully with a desire to please God. There are many truths in this chapter that many church people overlook, or dismiss with many excuses, but these are the words of Christ, not to be overlooked and disobeyed.

A garden left uncultivated goes to weeds, which choke the vegetables. So we must also constantly cultivate our Christian life by reading God's Word, attending spiritual church services, praying, mission work, visiting and helping those in need and keeping ourselves unspotted from the world. James 1:27. Many kinds of weeds grow in a garden and they make speedy headway if they are not constantly cultivated out. So the devil presents many kinds of sin to our minds, which like the garden, must be constantly cultivated and the evil thoughts cast out while they are small and can easily be destroyed. There are other kinds of weeds with seemingly-never-dying roots, one of which is the Canada thistle that has a tap root below plough depth that continues to rent up those nasty prickly tops that no one wants to touch. It can be cut off, time after time, all summer long, year after year, before they give up. The Canada

thistle reminds me of the deep sins of jealousy, spite, envy, hatred, and such like. My garden has these hateful Canada thistles, which grow in the pea rows. It is a nasty combination when I go to pick the peas, but though the peas cling to everything else about them not once have I seen them cling to a Canada thistle. When I put on a pair of leather gloves and go after the thistle I never fear destroying the pea vines. Let us be like the peas. If our place is close to the Canada thistle let us remember the peas that would take no hold on the Canada thistle and let the sin alone.

So, church member, if you have these things in your heart it will not only hinder the sinner from taking hold and becoming a Christian, but will turn him or her away. When God destroys that old root of bitterness out of the heart and the pricks are removed the crop will yield abundantly. The conversion of the Apostle Paul on the Damascus road is a good example.

Then another garden problem is the frost, sometimes in June and September here in the mountains. When some of us were perspiring at the Nebraska Conference some years ago the folks back home were working in cold high wind to cover rows of tender vegetables to protect them from the freeze. So in the Church, God's garden, we should labor to protect souls from destruction. It is difficult because Satan nearly always adds to the problem with His gossipy winds of destruction.

I have heard the remark many times that when plants do well for someone that they have a green thumb. Instead of a green thumb it is tender loving care which spiritually interpreted is love, without which no man shall see the Lord. It is the spirit of Christ who gave Himself that we might live. Thanks and praise to Him for the supreme sacrifice. Let us constantly cultivate the Christian graces in ourselves and in others with tender loving care. If there is a distance between Christ and us it is we who have moved away from Him. He said in Mal. 3:6, "I change not" and in another place, "I am the same yesterday (Old Testament), today (New Testament), and forever (eternity). If we will obey Him with a yielded heart and give Him quiet times of meditation instead of ever rushing around, sitting in front of the television or VCR doing everything to pacify the lust of the eye, the lust of the flesh and the pride of life.

The father ploughs and cultivates the garden, the mother and children plant, hoe and harvest the vegetables and prepare them to eat, or for winter use. This plan makes a happy family, teaches the children to work and value their labour. So in God's garden the Church, the elders and officials have their spiritual work to do, the laity have their work. When all work together to a common end, the sustaining of souls for eternal well-being, all goes well and God's garden produces one hundred fold. Let us strive to forsake the love



of the world and ungodly people, who are the snares of Satan to rob us of eternal life and send us into the everlasting lake of fire that was prepared for the devil and his angels.

Our desires and our lives make the difference between Heaven or hell. Let us give the Holy Spirit the chance to speak to us in our evening walk with Him in the garden.

Lovingly submitted  
Sister Ruth W. Snyder.

## **SIXTY YEARS AGO**

September 1, 1935

### **A WARNING**

L. W. Beery

It is interesting to note in how many ways this generation is following in the footsteps of other generations in practices that are evil. It seems not many children profit by the mistakes of the parents and not many generations profit by the mistakes of other generations even though a record is given for their instruction and warning.

In this day the "professing church" is doing so many things which are displeasing to God that the Israelite nation did in their day even though we have knowledge of their history and experiences and should profit by their mistakes.

At one time the word of the Lord through Jeremiah to Judah was this, "Behold, ye trust in lying words, that cannot profit. Will ye steal, murder, and commit adultery, and swear falsely, and burn incense unto Baal, and walk after other gods whom ye know not; And come and stand before me in this house, which is called by my name, and say, We are delivered to do all these abominations? Is this house, which is called by my name, become a den of robbers in your eyes? Behold, even I have seen it, saith the Lord." (Jer. 7:8-11.)

In the chapter from which this passage is taken the Lord was calling Judah to repentance; His message to them was, "amend your ways and your doings." A deplorable condition was existing among God's people; they were engaging in the sins and corruption of the world. Murder, oppression, theft, immorality, vulgarity and idolatrous worship was bad enough among the heathen nations who knew not the true God, but here all these abominations were being carried on under the cloak of religion. What made the condition worse they were justifying themselves in their evil conduct, they were "trusting in lying words." Yes, they said, "The temple of the Lord, the temple of the Lord, the temple of the Lord, are these." (V.4) Yes, they reasoned, we are God's people, his children, and they came into the sanctuary



of the Lord calling upon him and worshipping him. In all probability their leaders were patting them on the back and telling them there was no harm in these things inasmuch as they were the people of God. Doubtless these were some of the lying words in which they were trusting. What a mockery this was in the eyes of God.

One could hardly describe the present condition among professing Christian people more accurately than this. We are living in days when some of the extremes of wickedness are in evidence in the human family; evil men and seducers are waxing worse and worse and sin and degradation are in evidence on every hand. Were these conditions only existing among those who make no profession of the religion of Jesus Christ it would be bad enough but those who claim to know and profess to be children of the true and living God are engaging in all these sinful things. Not content with engaging in these abominable things with the world, they have brought them right into the sanctuary of the Lord where they are being carried on under the cloak of religion.

Like Judah, the professors are justifying themselves in their sins. They call upon the Lord and worship Him but continue to rebel against Him and walk after the lust of the flesh. They say, oh yes, we have accepted Christ, have been baptized and have joined the church, we are Christian people. Their hireling pastors tell them there is no harm in these worldly things inasmuch as they are members of the church, support the programs of the church and help pay his salary. They trust in lying words, that cannot profit.

Surely God is calling professing Christendom to repentance, "Amend your ways and your doings" is the message to all that have been deceived and led astray. Will we hear and obey the word of the Lord or will we continue on in sin and suffer the wrath of an offended God.

## OBITUARY

### CLARA ST. JOHN

Sis. Clara (Clarey) St. John was born May 2, 1927, near West Unity, Ohio, the daughter of Chester and Nellie (Roesch) Tate. She passed away at her home April 4, 1995, at the age of 67 years, 11 months and 2 days.

She is survived by her husband Edwin, three daughters, Beverly of Hart, Michigan, Carol Lorenz and her husband Lloyd of Peru, Indiana, Janet Hunkapiller and her husband Louis of Bethel, Pennsylvania; two sons Thomas and his wife Susan of Alvordton, Ohio and David

and his wife Becky of Pioneer, Ohio, and eight grandchildren.

Also surviving are three sisters, Dortha Hostetler of West Unity, Ohio, Melba Flory of Pioneer, Ohio, Marcella St. John of Stryker, Ohio and many nieces and nephews.

Preceding her in death were her parents, Chester and Nellie Tate and a brother, Donald Tate.

She gave her heart to the Lord at an early age and served God as a faithful member of the Pleasant Ridge Dunkard Brethren Church and was a loving wife, mother, and grandmother.

Clara was a very special person. She was a friend to the friendless, a mother to the motherless, and always had time for those who were troubled and less fortunate. Her quiet and patient spirit was a comfort to all who knew her.

#### The Welcome

The road has led me upward  
To the gates of glory wide,  
And the Savior bids them open  
As He welcomes me inside.

The radiance of His beauty  
Flows round about my soul  
And I feel His hand upon me  
As He makes by body whole.

Bowing there before my Master  
Lifting up mine eyes to His  
He gazes down upon me  
In love and tenderness.

The road's been rough and rocky  
I've traveled there below,  
But I'm dwelling in the heavenly  
Land, where milk and honey flow.

So let the Savior comfort you  
And heal your broken heart.  
Then someday we'll dwell in heaven  
Where we'll never have to part.

-Martha Heer

The family wishes to thank all who helped, consoled, and prayed during Clara's illness and after her death.

**NEWS ITEMS****GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI**

The Grandview Congregation plans to hold their Revival Meetings, September 10 through 17, the Lord willing. Bro. Dennis St. John will be the evangelist. Lovefeast will be September 16 with services beginning at 11:00 A.M. and Lovefeast service at 6:00 P.M.

All are welcome to come and worship with us.

Sister Deena Andrews, Cor.

**WEST FULTON, OHIO**

The Lord willing the West Fulton Congregation is looking forward to Revival Meetings, September 22 through October 1. Bro. Ray Stuber from the Shrewsbury Congregation will be the evangelist. Services will be at 7:45 weeknights, and 7:00 Sunday Evening.

Pray for these meetings that souls might be saved and that we each might be revived. All are cordially invited to attend any or all of these services.

Sister Diane Heisey, Cor.

**PLEASANT RIDGE, OHIO**

The Lord willing, the Pleasant Ridge Congregation is planning to have Communion Service on October 14 and 15. Morning services at 11:00 A.M. on Saturday, October 14, afternoon services at 2:00 P.M., evening Lovefeast at 7:00 P.M. Services continue on Sunday morning at 9:30 A.M.

All are welcome to come and worship with us.

Sister Marjorie Flory, Cor

**WALNUT GROVE, MARYLAND**

Brother Eugene Kauffman from Dayton, Virginia will be with us to conduct revival services beginning Sunday, September 24 and ending with the Lovefeast celebration on Sunday evening, October 1. Your prayers and/or presence would be inspiring and encouraging to us at this time.

Sister Dorcas Shelly, Cor.

**THANK YOU**

Thanks for remembering my 80th birthday. God bless each one that sent a card.

Sister Beulah Reed



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# BIBLE MONITOR

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NO. 18

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## ONE PRAYER I HAVE

One prayer I have—all prayers in one—  
When I am wholly thine;  
Thy will, my God, thy will be done,  
And let that will be mine.

All-wise, almighty, and all-good,  
In thee I firmly trust;  
Thy ways, unknown or understood,  
Are merciful and just.

May I remember that to thee  
Whate'er I have I owe;  
And back, in gratitude, from me  
May all thy bounties flow.

And though thy wisdom takes away,  
Shall I arraign thy will?  
No; let me bless thy name, and say,  
"The Lord is gracious still."

-Montgomery

## A MINOR KEY

Several years ago, the writer and family invited a neighbor to accompany them to Church one Sunday morning. She attended. She was not a religious person, although she had obviously received some religious training when a child in her native Germany. After the service, her comment about the morning spent with us at Church boiled down to one particular thing. She had found it hard to sing with us because our singing was in a minor key instead of a major key as she had learned.

This incident reminds us that conservative Christians, even in their singing, are different from the surrounding world. Their singing speaks of a submissive spirit, that would produce lives in a minor key. A man tends to have a pretty high opinion of himself, his abilities, his strengths, and his wisdom. It is human nature to minimize God and promote man.

The computer used by the Editor has many helpful features. Within the word processing program used to prepare the material for the Bible Monitor is a feature that not only checks the spelling, but also the grammar. The spell check is much appreciated and much used. The grammar check can be a problem sometimes. The grammar check is designed for modern business correspondence. Therefore it readily points out any grammatical construction that is in the passive voice. The passive voice expresses submission. The person is being acted upon rather than doing the acting. This will not do in modern American business. In the pages of the Bible Monitor, there are many remarks made that show a submission to God or even

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## THE BIBLE MONITOR

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to others. These expressions are suspect to this grammar checker. The Editor must override the checker, so God may receive His due credit.

How like modern man, who does not want to be subject to anyone else but himself. Each wants to do what is right in his own eyes. He does not want a standard imposed upon him. The standards established by the Bible are laughed at as being outmoded and unwise. This is not an entirely new development. Men have been rebellious since the Fall in the Garden of Eden. It was the serpent's plea to Eve that emphasized her ability to choose. She would become wise beyond what God had intended. Her newfound wisdom would become a snare to her and Adam. Once they had disobeyed God and became submissive to Satan's suggestion, they gained an earthly knowledge.

They lost more than they gained. They lost their fellowship with God, which was reestablished only after the sacrifice of the ram, to provide clothing and a blood sacrifice. This sacrifice was symbolic of the sacrifice of God's Son, Jesus Christ, to provide redemption for fallen and sinful mankind.

That was not the last time that men rebelled against God. It has been the steady history of men to be in rebellion against God. It was noted in the time of the Judges that men were wont to do what was right in their individual minds. Each man set his own standards for conduct and living. He was not going to be told by another what he must or must not do. He was not going to be told by God either.

The Bible as well as history is replete with examples of men setting their courses without reference to God's revealed direction. The standards set by God have been ignored and ridiculed since the beginning of time. Within our own very enlightened age, these standards are especially spurned and neglected. Submission to God is at a very low ebb.

There are many visible signs of this rebellion and reluctance to yield to God. It can be seen in personal appearance. The image of God has been sadly marred by His creation. Men wear their hair long; the women wear it short. Clothes are less than modest for either sex. The signs of submission to God in dress are missing from the Churches, where they would be expected to be found. The prayer covering, modest dresses and plain hairdoes are hard to find amongst God's professing people. The recreational activities of both men and women are often inconsistent with their professions of faith. Many other lifestyle issues show an unwillingness to submit to God's

standards. The career pathways chosen often show a desire for vocations that may impinge upon the standards God has established.

How often are our lives at variance with our profession of being God's children. How hard is it to live life in a minor key? How hard is it to be passive rather than aggressive? Perhaps as we sing we can be reminded by the minor key of our submission to God. As we study grammar and the passive voice, might we be reminded that God wants to work on us as well as have us work for Him.

M.C.Cook

## **ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE**

### **Contemporary Christian Music**

#### **Part III**

Reason 10: If Jesus is preached, nothing else matters. Oh, really? If someone takes off his clothes to draw a crowd and begins to preach the gospel of Christ, is it then permissible since the gospel is being preached. If Christian girls were to work as topless dancers so they could preach Christ to the men in the bars would God be happy with them? NO WAY! This may sound unreasonable, but Paul never meant that anything goes. Sin is still sin.

Reason 11: Why should the devil have all of the good music? How absurd! Name ten good things about Contemporary Christian Music. Maybe, "it makes me feel good," "it lets me blow off steam," "it helps me to cope." We give the best to God in our music and this is not the best. The best is not loud and dissonant. The music belongs to the world. Let them keep it.

In Isaiah 5:20, we learn, "Woe unto them that call evil good and good evil." One Contemporary Christian Music "artist" says, "Any band who says that they are in ministry and they don't want to be popular are they talking through their mouth. If I can't feed my family then I am in the wrong business."

In Contemporary Christian Music, the name of Jesus is thrown around like an irreverent lucky charm. It uses a lot of generic jargon about God. It is usually as non offensive as possible so it will appeal to "everyone."

The following are some statements from current artists that may set this topic in perspective and help us make a decision to change our music tastes.

"I am not connected to Christian music at all." "We are about the most unreligious band you can imagine." "I am really sick of all this heavy handed Christianity." "My goal is not to speak to the church. I

want to talk about peer pressure." "When my songs draw fire, I know I'm on the right track." "I want them to know that being a Christian doesn't mean that you have to become a nerd and wear un-stylish clothing." Young people, the Apostle Paul was stoned, beaten, whipped, attacked and ultimately executed for the cause of Christ. Certainly Christ weeps over such compromise today.

You must test your music. Test it in regard to: A. Peace: Is its quality peaceful. If it is not clear and peaceful, it is confusing and God is not the author if it. B. Joy: Does it make you deeply happy? Measure the message. IF it is not for the Christian, it is not valid. Christian music is not for the lost. The Bible never tells us that it is. It must contain the messages of salvation, comfort, devotion, thankfulness, and so forth. C. Thankfulness: The world always despises Christian music because it expresses thankfulness to God. They are only attracted by it when it becomes worldly enough to attract them! D. Grace: Music should be filled with grace and there should not be an air of pride about it or the artist who sings it. E. Teaching and Admonition: Christian music must be rooted in the Word of God. Most entertainers today are far more worried about fees, production costs, light and stage sets, set ups and tour expenses, printing, ads, popularity polls, and gospel charts. Do any of these sound important Biblically?

I challenge you to action. Stand up and be counted for God against Contemporary Christian Music, Rock and Country music. The price may seem high but the prize is to be had in the end. Cry out against "music pollution."

Let me share with you as we close this article a letter from a young Sister in California who has made a covenant with God about her music. "I hope I can always be a living vessel of the Lord and I pray that other young people will not fall into the pit that I did. God has forgiven me and I am overflowing with love for God...Satan tried to win me over...but he did not succeed, PRAISE GOD. I am sold out to God now."

Will you sell out to God in regard to YOUR music?

Brother Len Wertz

### **A TRIBUTE TO MY SISTERS**

I am blessed with two good sisters

They are named Mildred and Iona.

We, each lost our companions

We, each face future life alone.



We had the best of Christian parents  
That any child could have,  
They taught us how to worship,  
They taught us how to save.

Dad was a good provider  
And Mom, a very good mother.  
One thing they did not relish  
When-ever we fought each other.

Mother taught my sisters  
How to launder, clean and cook.  
My daddy taught me outside work  
And how the lawn should look.

They taught us Christianity  
To Sunday School and Church we went.  
Dad told me many, many times,  
If I earned a nickel, save a cent.

Each parent was quite active,  
Not slothful in any way.  
They taught us the same principles,  
Which we tried to do each day.

One by one we chose our mate  
The time had finally come.  
When we each set up house-keeping  
Though 'twas hard to leave our home.

My sisters, each are special!  
They are Christians, core to core.  
Each are good home makers  
What more could one wish for.

Each have reached the stage of life  
To do a trifle, its hard to start.  
We know that ere too soon, we each  
Shall from this life depart.

They have been good to me  
With visits and choice things to eat.  
With conditions as they are today  
Its very hard for us three to meet.

But in God's time and will,  
We'll leave this life on earth.  
We will meet loved ones gone before  
As a result of our RE-BIRTH.  
The late Brother Paul R. Myers

## THE TEMPTATIONS OF JESUS

(Read Matthew 4:1-11)

Hebrews 2:18, "For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted."

Hebrews 4:15, "For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin."

James 1:13, "Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:"

There have been many articles and even books written on the subject of the temptations of Christ. Sermons abound on this subject. However, we do not recall reading or hearing the difficulties surrounding this occasion being discussed. We feel led to attempt to do just that. In doing so, we desire to re-affirm three basic truths of our faith.

The first difficulty we find in the recorded incident in Matthew 4 is the fact that Satan, also called the tempter and the devil in this account, must have known whom he was attempting to deceive. If, as we believe, he was Lucifer the archangel he knew our Lord within the realms of Glory. We do not claim infallibility in our dealing with the question we propose, but it is of a certainty that God rules and overrules even over the empire of evil. It would seem as if God allowed Satan to tempt the Lord Jesus Christ for His own purposes. Perhaps He blinded the eyes of Satan temporarily to the fact that Jesus Christ was God the Son.

This leads us to the first basic truth of our faith. As we read in Hebrews 2:18 the fact that Jesus Christ was tempted allows Him to succour them that are tempted. The word "succour" (usually spelled succor today) means to give badly needed help. Therefore God allowed Jesus Christ to be tempted so He would be able to experience what we feel when we are tempted.

The second problem we find in the account of the temptation is that some teach that if Jesus Christ did not have an adamic sin nature He would not have been able to be tempted. Again, we point out that

God allowed this for His own purposes. This argument may have been within the Church during the time of the first century since the writer of Hebrews seems to have addressed it. In Hebrews 4:15 the writer of Hebrews (whom we believe to be the Apostle Paul) states very emphatically that (Jesus Christ) "was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin."

This brings us to the second basic truth of our faith. A savior with an adamic sin nature would be no savior at all. To teach, as some do, that Jesus overcame this sin nature by meeting each temptation without sinning does not explain how He would have lost His adamic nature which would have left Him in need of a Savior. The virgin birth was not only a miracle it was also the means whereby Jesus Christ was born without a sinful, adamic nature. We believe the blood that flowed through His veins was of a type never again and never before found on earth.

There is another truth connected with this subject. That is the fact that temptation is not sin. Yielding to temptation is. We are aware that some teach that the adamic nature can be completely destroyed by a "second work of grace." While some verses would seem to suggest the possibility of this, there are two reasons we reject this teaching. First of all if we no longer have an adamic nature it would be impossible to backslide or fall from the faith. The Scriptures teach both. Secondly, we have yet to meet the individual who has no failings once you get to know them well. (This most certainly includes myself.)

The last problem we find with the temptation of Jesus is found in James 1:13. If God cannot be tempted, was Jesus Christ God at the time of His temptation? Throughout church history men have both denied the deity of Jesus Christ and His humanity. The third basic truth we find is that Jesus Christ was both one hundred per cent divine and one hundred per cent human. This mystery is an article within itself.

When temptation comes our way the God-man is able to keep us from falling.

Brother James M. Hite  
816 E. Birch St.  
Palmyra, PA 17078-2704

**SIXTY YEARS AGO**  
**September 15, 1935**  
**BELIEF AND UNBELIEF**  
**A. L. Miller**

Everything has a history, because everything is passing.

In the beginning God made the world, and now this is history, and



we can believe it or not believe it, nevertheless it remains to be a fact.

History appeals to us as an educator, it was so intended from high heaven. The things that were written before hand were written for our learning. (Rom. 15:4.) The amount we gather from history is measured by the amount we believe in it. There is one fact peculiar to true history and that is, it reaches from one extreme to the other or in other words it is complete.

Now God has given man a mind to believe it or not believe it. Man's character is built upon what he accepts as a fact. Nevertheless it is not always a fact because he believes it. Man often believes things that are not facts. We might ask what is belief? Confidence, trust, acceptance of anything whether proven or assumed.

Now we find in God's most precious book, history proven in many different ways at many different times. One of the strongest is prophecy. Prophecy is only history written before time. God has so interlocked the two that the one depends upon the other for its completion. History looks to prophecy to complete the truth, while prophecy looks to history to confirm the truth. Should this not make us strong to believe it?

Paul told the Roman brethren "that the invisible things from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse."

God asks us to take nothing for granted, what He asks us to do, He qualifies. Jesus told the hosts at one time, "Ye believe in God, believe also in Me." Why were they to believe Him? Because for His very work's sake. This was truth qualified by works. It was a testimony of His power. But did the Jews believe in Him! Verily nay. How about the people of today, do they believe in the gospel teachings of Christ? I wonder if the Master would come to earth today and see the ungodly things going on in the religious world, if He wouldn't say, "O, fools and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken." (Luke 24:25.)

The crowning sin of the Jews was unbelief. When God delivered them out of Egypt, they believed up to the point of deliverance from bondage, out of Pharaoh's power, but believed not in the ways and means that God chose to bring them to the promised land.

They did not believe God's word, hence they did not believe His power and means, and what was the awful consequences.

They did not go into the promised land. Are we, as a Gentile nation, not writing the same history of unbelief?

The true child of God can see this plainly. These two histories of unbelief are written not so much by the world, but by believers, or rather church members, not Christians. The condition of the greater part of the religious world of today is, they believe in unbelief. We as Bible readers and obedient children to its teachings, can see this very plainly. Few indeed, are they who believe the whole of God's word. They try to satisfy themselves in believing that something short of what God says, or has said, will do just as well. Just like when God told Moses to build the ark of atonement, (Exodus 25:10-22) Moses was told to put rings into the side of the ark, and to make staves to put into the rings to carry it. We find that they carried it for some time, but we find that they made a change. They came to a place and time where they thought an easier way was just as good. So David arose and went with all the people that were with him from Baale of Judah to bring the ark of God to Jerusalem. Did they carry it? No, they took a new cart (another belief) and what a time they had playing upon all kinds of instruments.

Dear reader, do you know of such things going on today in the churches of our land? Well what happened? Please read II Samuel 6:1-10. It is possible that we can do the right thing in a wrong way? Yes, very easily. We find that David did not get the blessing as soon as he thought he would with this new cart, although his intentions may have been good, but he adopted a Philistine expedient.

Belief of itself can no more save a man than faith without works. Belief of itself is far more apt to make a man a devil than a Christian.

It needs qualification. We must give evidence in the thing we believe by obedience. God's command is observe all things, this means that we are to believe all things, teach all things, obey all things, and oh, the glorious promise is, "Lo, I am with you always even unto the end of the world." (Matt. 28:20.) Praise His holy name.

Who can measure the depth of man's blindness in unbelief when once its victim? Few indeed, are they who correctly weigh the opportunity of accepting the terms of God now. It is but a small matter to not believe man, but we should well consider what it is to not believe God. Remember Lot's wife, also Ananias and his wife.

## THEY WERE SCORCHED

"And when the sun was up, they were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered away." Matthew 13:6.

This is part of the parable of the sower. It concerns the sowing of the Gospel, and what happens to the seed that is sown. In this case

we have seed in shallow soil. The problem was not the sun, but the lack of roots. How is your root system? When you have a spiritual or temporal difficulty, or a setback of some kind, do you blame the scorching of the sun? You should rather blame the shallowness of your roots.

The roots here represent our spiritual life: our secret life with God. By secret we mean that which is carried out in private. How much time do we spend in private before the throne of Grace? How much is spent in intercession and in the reading of God's Word? I have heard that many church members only pray at meals or in the meeting where others see them. For many there is no prayer closet, no "Hidden Life of Prayer." There are also those that do not read the Bible except before others. God wants to bless us, but often due to our own willfulness we refuse His blessings.

It is those Christians that spend much time in secret with the Lord that are able to triumph when trials of life come their way. It is those who choose the afflictions of the righteous rather than the pleasure of sin for a season. One day we may have to make a decision: do we renounce our faith or lose our lives? We cannot afford to wait until then to know what our decision would be. We must set down our roots now for the scorching sun ahead.

With my whole heart I've sought thy face,  
O let me never stray  
From thy commands, O God of grace,  
Nor tread the sinner's way.

Bro. Lynn H. Miller  
RD 2 Box 561  
Newmanstown, PA 17073

## **HELP SAVE AMERICA**

**Fred Pruitt**

Pray for the President and Legislators.

The United States as a nation is the richest country in the world, having resources to such an extent that we could practically live within ourselves if need be. The wealth of this country runs into the billions. While the government may not be perfect and officials make mistakes, yet we believe our form of government is the best in the world and allows more justice to citizens in general than any other form of government.

The records show that this nation has never been whipped nor beaten to her knees by any other nation although a number have tried it.



Although all these good things can be said of this nation and much more could be truthfully told; yet we, as a nation of people, should not boast, but humbly thank God for His past favors. If we boast at all, let it be in the Lord only for He it is that has favored us and allowed us to prosper and become strong in a natural sense. The same God of love and mercy that has favored us in the past can withdraw His power of favor and soon the nation would wither, blast, and be overrun by wicked people who would slaughter us, subdue us, and bring us into slavery and abject poverty.

It is everywhere evident that this nation as a people in a general sense has forgotten God. The wickedness of the wicked is great in the land. The majority of professed Christians have only self-righteousness, and they travel on, wrapping their self-righteous rags around them with a lofty air, worshipping their fine church buildings and large numbers more than the "Giver of all things." The professing people are cursed with idol worship. They worship "MY CHURCH" and the good things that God gives rather than the giver. They do not seem to be careful or diligent to examine themselves in the light of the sacred word or the life of Christ to see how much they need to repent and forsake, but seem satisfied and contented just to belong to some man-made church.

God's written word reads, "Woe to them that are at ease in Zion." Amos 6:1. The people are trusting in the mountain of Samaria (in this country) rather than in the heavenly Mount Zion, Jerusalem which is from above, the mother of all truly spiritually living people (Gal. 4:26).

Those in touch with the living God ought to pray thus:

Pray first for those in authority, for the legislators and rulers of our nation. Read I Tim. 2, first few verses.

Our president and body of senators and legislators have a great responsibility resting upon them to guide the affairs of our nation to a peaceful end. They need our prayers rather than criticism, for they do need wisdom from God. They need to fear God and humble their hearts before Him, and seek wisdom from the Creator of all things that exist that our nation may not perish.

Pray that God will talk to the hearts of the people and teach them to humble down before God, and not only repent and ask God to forgive them of their sins, but that they will look to God for grace to forsake sin. God will have mercy on people that will humble their hearts in godly sorrow for sin and forsake it that His righteousness may be in them.

We read in Prov. 28:13, "He that covereth his sins shall not

prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy." It is not enough just to repent and confess our sins; we must forsake them if we expect mercy at the hand of God.

We should pray for the young boys who have been drafted into the army for training to kill others—both in this nation and in other nations, for their souls are all precious in the sight of God—they certainly need the prayers of the righteous. Pray for those in the hospitals who are wounded and crippled in the past war, and for the mothers whose hearts are broken and bleeding because of sons who fell on the battlefield or were crippled and maimed for life. Pray for the war lords in other nations and in our nation, that God will weaken them and make them afraid to launch another bloody war with "garments rolled in blood."

Some may say, "What is the use to pray? what is going to be will be." Such reasoning as that is not sound, neither is it scriptural. When the Hebrew nation would humble themselves and repent, God would have mercy and favor them again. When God had said to Hezekiah, "Set thine house in order for thou shalt die and not live," Hezekiah turned his face to the wall and wept sore and prayed unto God. God saw his tears and heard his cry and added fifteen years to his life. God's word thru Jonah to that wicked city, Nineveh, was "Yet forty days and Nineveh shall be overthrown." But when they heard the pronunciation of God's wrath upon them, they began to repent and the King published throughout Nineveh, a decree saying, "Let man and beast be covered with sackcloth and cry mightily unto God: yea, let them turn every one from his evil way, and from the violence that is in their hands. Who can tell if God will turn and repent, and turn away from His fierce anger that we perish not." Jonah 3:8-9.

"And God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way: and God repented of the evil that he had said that he would do unto them; and he did it not." God will be like that to us as a nation if we will repent and turn from evil as they did. James says, "The effectual, fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." James 5:16.

Peter says, "For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil." 1 Pet. 3:12. If this nation will repent and forsake their sins and become righteous, God's ears will be open to our cries and America will be saved.

Brothers and sisters, let us pray for our President, Legislators, and the nation as a whole that we may have peace in the land; for PRAYER DOES CHANGE THINGS.

Selected by Dan Kaufman



## OBITUARIES

### MAMIE LEATHERMAN

Sis. Mamie S. Leatherman, 85, a resident of Dawn View Manor Nursing Home, Fort Ashby, West Virginia, formerly of Route 1, Burlington, West Virginia, died Thursday, May 25, 1995, at Potomac Valley Hospital, Keyser, West Virginia. She was born May 28, 1909, at Martin, West Virginia, the daughter of the late William and Martha F. (Leatherman) Smootz.

She was also preceded in death by her husband, Ray C. Leatherman on December 20, 1949. Sis. Leatherman was the last surviving member of her immediate family. She was retired from the Cambridge Rubber Company at Littlestown, Pennsylvania. She was a member of the Ridge Dunkard Brethren Church, Antioch, West Virginia. Sis. Leatherman is survived by nine nieces and seven nephews.

Funeral services were conducted at 2:00 P.M., Sunday, May 28, 1995, at the Rotruck-Smith Funeral Home Chapel, Keyser, West Virginia with Elder Virgil Leatherman and Elder Gene Kauffman officiating. Interment was in the Knobley Cemetery. She will be greatly missed. We will just say good-bye here and good morning over there.

### SUSIE GILPIN

Sister Susie Wilma Gilpin, 85, of 6501 Slabtown Road, Waynesboro, Pennsylvania, died Tuesday, July 4, 1995, in her home following a lengthy illness.

She was born April 27, 1910, in New Enterprise, Pennsylvania. She was the daughter of Samuel K. and Amanda (Koonos) Wisler.

She and her husband, Joseph A. Gilpin were married in January 1955. He preceded her in death on January 12, 1984.

She is survived by four step children, Frances Sweitzer and Freda Rexroad, both of Swanton, Maryland, John Gilpin of Hancock, Maryland and Cecil Gilpin of Gerard, Ohio; a sister Elizabeth Wisler, with whom she resided and a brother, John Wisler of Zullinger, Pennsylvania; sixteen grandchildren and thirty-two great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a stepson, Kurtis Gilpin, a brother, David Wisler, and two sisters, Mattie Wisler and Fannie Hearn.

Susie was a very faithful and devoted member of the Waynesboro Dunkard Brethren Church. She also enjoyed corresponding with several students at the Torreón Mission.

Private family services were held at 8:45 A.M., Friday, July 7, 1995, in her home. Funeral services followed at 10:00 A.M. at the Waynesboro Dunkard Brethren Church with Elders Frank D. Shaffer, Eldon Mallow and Frank E. Shaffer officiating. Burial was in the Rhodes Gilpin Cemetery, Swanton, Maryland.

We wish to thank everyone for the prayers, visits and cards at the time of the loss of our loved one.

The family and Sister Elizabeth Wisler



## **NEWS ITEMS**

### **ENGLEWOOD, OHIO**

The Englewood Congregation has chosen September 24, 1995, for their Harvest Meeting. Bro. Dennis St. John has consented to bring the morning message. We will remain for a fellowship meal at noon.

May the Lord of the Harvest make this a time of gathering in.

Sister Ruth Speicher, Cor.

### **McCLAVE, COLORADO**

The McClave Congregation is looking forward to a Revival, September 24 through October 1. Brother Kenny Wilkerson from Pennsylvania will be our evangelist.

Lovefeast services will be September 30 at 7:30 P.M. Other services for that day will begin at 11:00 A.M. All other evening services will begin at 7:30 P.M. Come worship with us!

Sister Tina Wertz, Cor.

### **LITITZ, PENNSYLVANIA**

The Lord willing, the Lititz Congregation plans for Revival Meetings, October 6 through October 15, 1995. Bro. Robert Carpenter from the Plevna, Indiana Congregation plans to be with us.

Come praying for lost souls and a strengthening of the Church.

Sister Dorcas Myers, Cor.

### **MECHANICSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA**

The Mechanicsburg Congregation is planning on a Revival for one week from October 15 through 22, 1995 with Brother Jason Reed as evangelist.

Sister Mary Hartz, Cor.

### **DAYTON, VIRGINIA**

Dayton Congregation is looking forward to our Fall Revival Meeting October 18 through 22, 1995. The Lord willing, Brother Harley Flory, of the Pleasant Ridge, Ohio Congregation will be our evangelist. Services at 7:30 P.M. weekdays. The Examination Service begins at 4:00 P.M., Lovefeast at 7:00 P.M. on Saturday October 21, 1995.

We invite any and all to be with us. Also remember our little number in prayers that we might all be touched and drawn closer to the Lord and Saviour.

My PRAYER to all, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God." Ephesians 2:8.

Sister Lizetta Bittinger, Cor.

## **NEW INFORMATION**

The Area Code for the members who attend the Dayton Dunkard Brethren Church has been changed to 540 on all telephones. Thank you.

Sister Lizetta Bittinger, Cor.

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## **ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR OCTOBER 1995**

October 1 - Aaron's garments; The Ephod - Exodus 28:1-43.

1. Name the two purposes of Aaron's holy garments.
2. What is meant by the phrase, "That Aaron may bear the iniquity of the Holy things"?

October 8 - Laws of Sacrifice - Exodus 29:1-46.

1. Why were Aaron and his sons commanded to put their hands upon the head of the animals to be sacrificed?
2. How was the tabernacle sanctified?

October 15 - Atonement - Exodus 30:1-30.

1. For what was the atonement money to be used?
2. Why wash hands and feet but not the whole body?

October 22 - Cunning workmen; keeping the Sabbath - Exodus 31:1-18.

1. How does God raise up people today to do His work?
2. How should we observe the Sabbath under grace?

October 29 - Moses pleads for Israel - Exodus 32:1-14.

1. What are the golden calves at the feast of the Lord today?
2. What lessons should we learn from the intercession of Moses?

## **YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR OCTOBER 1995**

October 1 - Obedience - Deut. 26:16-18, Jos. 1:8-9, Matt. 7:21-23; James 1:21-25.

1. Explain the relationship of commitment and obedience.
2. Why is it so important for our words and our walk to match?

October 8 - Providence - Prov. 12:20-25, Prov. 13:13-16, Prov. 22:1-4, Luke 12:29-35

1. How does God provide for and care for His people?
2. In what ways can keeping our lights burning demonstrate the providence of God to others?

October 15 - Knowledge - Gen. 3:5-6, Ps. 2:3-5, John 7:16-17, John 8:31-32, II Peter 3:17-18, II Tim. 3:7.

1. How can we know the truth?
2. How do we grow in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ?

October 22 - Cornelius - Acts 10:1-48.

1. What lessons did Peter learn through these happenings?
2. Explain the significance of obedience on the part of both Cornelius and Peter.

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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXXIII

OCTOBER 1, 1995

NO. 19

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## STRENGTH

Be strong to hope, O heart!

Though day is bright,

The stars can only shine

In the dark night.

Be strong, O heart of mine,

Look toward the light.

Be strong to bear, O heart!

Nothing is vain:

Strive not, for life is care,

And God sends pain.

Heaven is above, and there

Rest will remain.

Be strong to love, O heart!

Love knows not wrong;

Didst thou love creatures even,

Life were not long;

Didst thou love God in heaven

Thou wouldst be strong.



## ONLY THE STRONG

There is a widespread perception that only weak men and women become Christians. This view is somewhat confirmed by the statistic that more than twice as many women as men are active members of Christian churches. The current idea is that one who is a Christian does not have the physical stamina or courage to live a real man's life.

Is this merely an illusion or is it true? Christians dare not be weak. A greater strength is needed to live a Christian life than one of drift and defeat. Satan would want to picture Christianity as a gathering of the weak and ineffective. If he can persuade men and women that only the weak become followers of Jesus Christ, he would lead many, having great talents, to waste them on other pursuits.

Putting aside the illusion of weakness, let us consider the true strength of those who become a child of God. Which requires the greater strength, drifting with popular opinion and practice, or standing boldly for what is right? It is quite easy to go along with what everyone else thinks or does. It does not require a great deal of strength to be part of a crowd. It takes strength to stand with a minority. There is no great public adoration for the one who chooses to follow God.

We can look at the lives of various heroes of the faith and see the strength they exhibited. Considering the persecutions listed in Hebrews 11, we can appreciate their strength. We can appreciate the stand that they took, when it was not easy to be in the minority.

Abraham had the strength to obey God. It was not easy for him to separate himself from his family and move to an unknown land. He chose to separate himself from idols and idolatry. He was obedient

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**THE BIBLE MONITOR****OCTOBER 1, 1995**

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to God when he was told to sacrifice his own promised son. He was a hero who became the Friend of God. He was not weak and fearful.

Moses had the courage to choose God's people over the pleasures of Pharaoh's household. He had the courage to deliver, over and over, the message God had for Pharaoh. It was no easy task to stand before Pharaoh and pronounce the various plagues that God would send upon Egypt. Perhaps demanding even more strength was his leadership of the oft rebellious children of Israel. Forty years of journeying through the desert demanded courage and strength. It was not only the harsh physical conditions that demanded such strength, but the emotional and Spiritual challenge of leading an unwilling and rebellious people through many dangers. Yet he remained loyal not only to God, but also to the well-being of the people.

David was another strong hero of the faith. He was the man after God's heart. He had an understanding of God's emotions toward mankind. He knew of God's love and also His judgment. There were many times that he found God's favor and many times he felt His vengeance. David could be strong before Goliath. Not only did he overcome the giant, but he inspired his countrymen. He defied Saul, yet was strong enough to not take advantage of him.

The Apostle Paul may have been the strongest weak man there ever was. He spoke often in his epistles about his appearance of weakness. He was not a compelling speaker nor handsome in looks. He suffered many physical ailments and tortures. He suffered more from the attitudes of his enemies and even his supposed friends. He was willing to face the dangers and persecutions that awaited him. Although weak in the flesh, he certainly was not weak in the faith.

Jesus is often pictured as weak and effeminate. He could never have been weak and have faced the serious challenges that were before Him. Because He was determined to do His Father's will He was willing to do what was necessary. He faced physical and emotional challenges that would have defeated a weaker person. The burden He bore on the cross demanded moral, Spiritual and physical strength.

Christians need to be strong. The strong need to be Christians. Christianity is not for those who are weak and indecisive.

Those who fear they lack this strength are not left without a source of power. Any Christian, no matter how physically, mentally or Spiritually weak, can have the needed power. That supplied power is one of the works of the indwelling Holy Spirit. His Spirit is able to strengthen the weak so they have the power to accomplish God's purpose through their lives.

Do you think serving God is only for the weak? Since you are



strong, why do you not serve Him?

M.C.Cook

## **ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE**

### **Christian Self Concept**

Christians, who suffer from a deficient self-concept frequently think about themselves, but seldom about themselves in relation to God. Of course this causes problems in the believer because his thoughts of himself are just as they were while he was still unsaved.

To think of yourself properly, you must think of yourself as God thinks of you. God sees the sins, the failures, the inadequacies of His children. Beyond evaluating practice, God considers our position. By His grace, believers are positioned in Jesus. When God thinks of us, He thinks of us in terms of our relationship to Him. An accurate and adequate self concept results when we think of ourselves in this same manner.

This God centered self-concept requires wrestling with some weighty theological truths. It demands understanding the meaning of being in Christ Jesus, of being a child of God, and of becoming partakers of the divine nature. As created beings, our value is determined by our Creator. As part of His new creation in Christ Jesus, our value is derived from our relationship with Him.

Often, everything, except our God-concept, intrudes to determine our self concept. The weather, for instance, can drastically affect our self-concept. In cloudy and foggy weather a person may consider himself an utter failure; in beautiful weather the same person may exude unbounded optimism. Similarly, our self-concept can be manipulated by our financial status, health condition, personal remarks by others, minor daily irritations at work or at home and by many other factors. The result is instability. Up one day and down in the valley the next. Instability will always result, unless we base our self-concept on something that never changes, our position in God, and in Christ Jesus.

A simple exercise can illustrate this point. When asked to make a list of statements describing oneself, most people will include data on marital status, family size, education, occupation, accomplishments and hobbies. Some would even include their goals for the future, personality description and an evaluation of current emotional characteristics. How many of us include descriptions such as saint, royal priest, heir of God or member of the Body of Christ? Yet, these are a few of the descriptions God used in the Word to describe the believer. They are the types of things that will provide the proper base for our self-concept.



A sense of personal identity based on our relationship with God will have various results. First, we will be thinking about ourselves as God does and thus will be thinking correctly. We will strike the delicate balance between the two extremes of pride and false humility. Also, one will have the type of stability that insures hope, patience and faith, even in the most difficult circumstances. Discouragement does not come easily to one who knows himself ultimately victorious in Christ Jesus. In addition, temptation loses much of its appeal to a person who thinks of himself as a "saint" or as a "child of God." Boldness in Christian service likewise results when we see ourselves vitally connected to Christ, whose success is sure.

How do we develop a God-centered self-concept? Meditate on the scriptures that describe our unchangeable position in God's sight. This will renew our mind to think correctly. Eph. 1:3-14, I Peter 2:9 and II Peter 1:3-4 will provide a beginning. Frequent reflection on their contents will help us to be more sensitive to the same truths in other passages. Mental discipline is required to think repeatedly on these truths. This discipline results in new thinking patterns that glorify God.

Christians can end confusion about their significance by thinking about themselves in the same manner as God does. As Christians, we cannot think correctly about ourselves without thinking about God. Our identity is determined by our position, our relationship with Him in Jesus Christ.

Brother Len Wertz

## THE OLD COUNTRY STORE

One of the landmarks of the past era is gone, perhaps, forever. That is the old country store. Years ago, before shopping centers and chain stores appeared, there were located in many villages and communities these kind of stores. Most of them displayed a sign on the front of the building, "GENERAL MERCHANDISE". They were true to their name.

There was a need for these stores, in that time. They served their communities well. There were few automobiles. People depended on the country store for most of their needs.

Generally the store keeper lived in the same building. His hours were not from eight o'clock in the morning until five in the evening, but more likely seven in the morning until nine or ten o'clock at night.

He stocked all kinds of merchandise. You seldom asked for an item he did not have. If you were willing to wait he would order it for you and notify you when it came in.

His stock of groceries was not as elaborate as what the modern stores carry today, but he stocked the essentials. Cookies, pickles, oyster crackers and many other items came in bulk, not already packaged like today. Sugar came in cloth bags. The size most often called for was the twenty-five pound bag. It was cheaper per pound than smaller bags. Vinegar came in barrels. If you needed vinegar you had to bring your own container.

In the middle of the store was a pot-bellied stove for heat. Loafers sat around the store. Often there was a Checker game in progress.

He stocked sprinkling cans, buckets, five gallon oil cans, slop jars, lanterns, dishpans and so forth, all hanging from hooks in the ceiling. He had a display of garden tools such as shovels, hoes, rakes, spades and so forth. In the spring of the year he stocked all kinds of seeds, vegetable plants and other products for the garden, such as fertilizer and insect repellents.

One counter was where he conducted business. There he wrapped and tied the packages with cord from a ball suspended from the ceiling. The cord hanging down was always handy, but out of the way. A stalk of bananas hung from the ceiling, also. On this counter was the cash register or cash drawer. A coffee grinder stood next to the cash register. Coffee came in the whole bean in large bags. He ground it to order. Back of this counter was a type of filing cabinet where he filed duplicate copies of files when customers said "charge it". A meat slicer was on this counter. He did not stock fresh meat, only cold cuts.

Nearby was a big wheel of Swiss Cheese weighing more than one hundred pounds. He cut it in wedge shaped pieces, varying in size according to the customer's order.

He carried a line of footwear for men, women and children consisting of shoes, boots, rubbers and overshoes.

At the country store where my folks dealt, the merchant was honest and courteous. His business increased to the point where he had to enlarge his building, which included a small warehouse. With this addition, he could stock a larger variety of items. He had more shelves built nearly to the ceiling.

He installed a rolling, inclined ladder to reach these upper shelves. It had a wheel on both sides of the bottom of the ladder. At the top of this inclined ladder was an attachment that ran on a track fastened to the ceiling, running the full length of the building. He could roll this ladder anywhere within the limits of the track, to store or get merchandise from the upper shelves.



In the new warehouse, he stored ladders, wheelbarrows, chick feed, and many other things that took too much room in the store.

He stocked a variety of small hardware such as nails, screws, bolts, knives, padlocks and so forth.

The women folk could buy sewing needles, pins, needles, thread and so forth, along with a few bolts of cloth.

He also sold patent medicines and first aid supplies. He stocked men's work clothes such as overalls, work shirts and gloves to name a few.

At Christmas time you could buy trees, decorations for the season, oranges and greeting cards. I can not recall all the variety of merchandise that he sold.

He was an agent for a laundry and a dry cleaning company.

While there were few cars at that time, he had one gasoline pump. On one side of the pump was a sprinkling can with water to fill radiators. On the other side was a rack that held six one quart glass bottles of oil. He did not have an air compressor.

If his store was located where a railroad went through, he also was the post master of that village. He maintained a post office in his store. The mail train went one direction in the morning and the opposite direction in the evening. He had to postmark each item that went out.

He then packed the outgoing mail in a rain proof bag. Close to the store and very near the railroad was a sturdy post, with two arms about three feet long, extending towards the track. One was above the other as far apart as the length of the mail bag. Each arm had a patented hook on the end to which he hanged the mail bag, each end hooked to one of the arms. When the train came, it did not stop. The mail car person opened the side door of the car. A man in the mail car extended out of the doorway a special made hook that grabbed the mail bag. At the same time he kicked off the incoming mail bag.

After the train went through, he took the bag of mail, sorted it, and put it in the proper lock boxes.

He was a trader. Farmers traded their surplus eggs and butter for groceries. He had to hire several people to help operate his enterprise. Occasionally he had to get up at night to accommodate someone in need of a first aid item or needed to call a doctor, as the store keeper had the only phone in the vicinity.

Due to the fact that he had an enormous variety of merchandise, the post office, gas station and his trading with the farmers plus paying better wages to his help than the average, he operated much longer than many of his competitors.

The late Brother Paul R. Myers



**SIXTY YEARS AGO**

October 1, 1935

**DEVELOPMENT OF CHRISTIAN CHARACTER****B. F. Masterson**

"Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked fall from your own steadfastness. But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." (II Peter 3:17-18.)

The apostle admonishes not to do one thing, but to do the other. "But to grow in grace," which is Christian character. Character is what we are, not what we do nor what we say, that is profession. Character is what we are, not what we seem—that is appearance; not what people think we are—that is reputation. Character is the force of life. A principle engraved on the heart by or through the operation of the Holy Spirit in the new birth.

This is "Christian Character." The original word for character signifies, "I engrave on the marble." He who is born of God is Godly minded and partakes of the divine nature, because like begets like. "That which is born of the Spirit, is Spirit." "If any man has not the Spirit of Christ he is none of His."

This Spirit controls the whole man, flesh cannot be converted, flesh is flesh still, but it can be controlled. The foundation of Christian character is not merely negative. We do not clean the garden weeds and dig it up and mellow the ground and leave it rest at that, but we plant and cultivate that which will bring forth fruit.

So one having his sins pardoned and then be passive, is not bringing forth fruit to the honor and glory of God. It is not only how good I can be, but how much good can I do. "He that heareth these sayings of mine and doeth them." Some Christian professors are so good that they are good for nothing, never make themselves felt.

The word of God is the seed engraved on the heart, not born of the corruptible but incorruptible the word of God which liveth and is the power of God unto salvation to them that believe, and endure forever.

That which is to endure is of slow growth, not like a mushroom, but like the oak.

Let us look at this process of the growing of grace from a real practical standpoint. Please read II Peter 1:2-10. In this scripture we find the arithmetic or development of Christian character.

First, sin subtracted; second, grace added; third gifts divided; forth, peace multiplied. All these traits implies activity and activity develops the very first thought, "Give all diligence," implies activity, earnestness in God's service.

Now comes the addition of Christian character in its natural course.

First add to faith—the faith that leads one to embrace Christ. There are degrees in faith, from one degree of faith to a higher degree. “From faith to faith,” which produces virtue or courage, fortitude, bravery. Now add knowledge to faith and virtue. A clear conception of God’s will, faith without knowledge is like a ship without a pilot. Here the Holy Ghost will come to one’s assistance, “He will guide you unto all truth.” To knowledge temperance, the entire government of passions. “Let your moderation be known unto all men.”

A person making a strong plea against whisky traffic, have him sit to a well loaded table and watch him eat. I am not opposing his plea, but his inconsistency. To temperance patience, enduring evils, wrongs, toil, pain, poverty, insult, oppression, and so forth.

To patience—Godliness, more like Christ, as a matter of course, pious, reverential. To Godliness—brotherly love or kindness, more goodness, more love for whom Christ died. To brotherly love—universal love, self sacrifice, not selfish, but that which moves one to give for missions.

These traits of character are not developed by promenading in golden slippers on the sunny side of life. These Christian graces are like a bouquet of roses plucked midst the thorns of endurance and toil in the garden of affliction.

These graces fully developed are most beautiful, like the rainbow, its beautiful colors are produced from the sun shining on the rain drops. So midst toils, trials and afflictions and opposition in the sunshine of the gospel these beautiful graces are brought to light. Were it not for friction the steam engine could not make headway on the track. If upon a smooth and level track you should start an engine rolling it would soon stop, the track would offer no resistance, the wheels would be spinning, but making no headway; but the inequality and projection of the track grips the wheels and starts it and keeps it going. That is the reason the engineer puts sand on the track when it comes to a heavy pull. What is true of the engine is true of the Christian, hindrances, disappointments, failures and opposition are the real helpers. It is only through them that we get a grip on the shining track to the beautiful sunset of life.

These make us to realize and to know ourselves; teach us to control self; by these means we pass the station of doubt and despair on the trunk line that leads to the union station of happiness.



## A SOUND OF BATTLE IS IN THE LAND

Jeremiah 50:22-24, "A sound of battle is in the land, and of great destruction. How is the hammer of the whole earth cut asunder and broken! how is Babylon become a desolation among the nations! I have laid a snare for thee, and thou art also taken, O Babylon, and thou wast not aware: thou art found, and also caught, because thou hast striven against the LORD."

Although a Christian is not to be involved in carnal warfare there are many parallels between the armies of the world and the army of the Lord. Make no mistake about it, the true Church has been in a spiritual battle from its very conception. The New Testament makes it very clear that the greatest concern of the first century Church was not the persecution from without but the false teachers and prophets within the system.

From talking to those, who were involved in an unpopular war fought within our lifetime, we have found out that one of their problems was that it was often nigh to impossible to distinguish the enemy from the friend. We observe this dilemma escalating within the earthly church of our day.

For many years there has been a concerted effort to abolish any absolutes within the church. At first this was primarily an effort of those who were labeled "liberal." But recent years has found the "conservative" element of the church caught up in this diabolical scheme. There are three areas where absolutes were, at least to a degree, upheld by the "conservative" branch of the church.

The first of these was the cardinal doctrines of the faith. A recent movement gaining popularity with those who claim to be a part of the "conservative" element of the church, according to reports we read, have put moral values above sound doctrine.

On the other hand, there are those within the "Conservative" camp who seem to be very strong on the cardinal doctrines of the faith, but they refuse to uphold absolutes in the area of such issues as modesty in dress and separation from the world.

The Church, the hammer of the whole earth both in the sense of positive building and the breaking down of spiritual strongholds, is cut asunder and broken! Like Babylon, she has become a desolation among the nations! Although the world has always despised the absolutes of the church they respected her for upholding them. Today this respect is fast becoming a thing of the past.

We cannot expect the blessing of God upon those who have striven against Him and His Holy Word. Many do not seem to be aware that the Glory of the Lord has departed from a large segment of the



earthly church. They are found and caught in the snare of deception.

The last portion of the battle we wish to explore may seem insignificant and without merit to many. This is the battle raging within such movements as our own Dunkard Brethren Church. We confess to being a connoisseur of Brethren history, although we may not meet all the qualifications of its definition. One of the most interesting books we have ever read on this subject is a recent one by Donald R. Fitzkee with the title "MOVING TOWARD THE MAINSTREAM." We quote the beginning portion of one paragraph from his book.

"The shedding of distinctive dress was a highly visible outward sign of important inward changes taking place among the Brethren in the early years of the century. Their growing penchant to dress like the world indicated that Brethren had begun to think like the world, as well..." (Emphasis by the author.)

Without being judgmental, the desire to be like other church organizations is very obvious in the appearance, sermons and decisions of most plain churches. Little by little we are becoming more ecumenical minded and rebellious against our own traditions. Our only concern is, where will it end? Will we have striven against the Lord?

A sound of battle is in the land. Each must decide where their loyalty will lie. There is also a battle for your soul. You must decide between Jesus Christ and this world.

Brother James M. Hite  
816 E. Birch St.  
Palmyra, PA 17078-2704

### **"AND PETER"**

"But go your way, tell his disciples and Peter that he goeth before you into Galilee: there shall ye see him, as he said unto you." Mark 16:7.

Why do you think Peter was singled out in this narrative? Why was it he and not Thomas the Doubter or Judas the Betrayer? Judas was dead and Thomas was reconciled to Jesus. It was because Peter denied Jesus.

Think of it: Peter, who had seen Jesus transfigured, who was with Him in the garden, who so wanted to be like Jesus that he walked on the water. He denied Him: Not once, but three times. Jesus told him that he would, but he would not believe it until after it happened. He was guilty before God and man and did not deserve the mercies of God. Did not Jesus say whoever denies me I will deny before my Father in Heaven? Yes, Peter was indeed guilty of denying the Savior. But what of the grace of Almighty God? Didn't Peter weep and repent

of his wrong? Just as Thomas fell on his face before Jesus saying, My Lord and My God, could not Peter also repent of this sin?

What a Blessed Day it was when Peter heard his name. It was a day just like the day that we heard Jesus speak our names, and welcome us into the family of God. The great gulf that separates man and God has been spanned by Jesus Christ. The chasm of our own design, like Peter's, has been bridged by Love.

O the love that drew salvation's plan!

O the grace that brought it down to man

O the mighty gulf that God did span at Calvary!

Mercy there was great and grace was free,

Pardon there was multiplied to me.

There my burdened soul found liberty, at Calvary!

Brother Lynn H. Miller

RD 2 Box 561

Newmanstown, PA 17073

## SUNRISE

Every day as I awake, I look for the sunrise. Some mornings are dark as the rain begins to fall. We need both the sunshine and the rain to make the vegetables grow. The dear Lord knows what is best for His children.

Every day as I awake I pray that I can live through the day as He has planned it for me. I have met with lots of grief but still the dear Lord has helped me to be able to go through this. I still keep getting help from above to give me courage to do the things He has in His plan for my life.

I love to meet with those who have never known the dear Lord, so I can speak to them about their lost condition. I try to help them see the beauty of a Christian life.

I always try to be walking up the hillside where the sunshine lights the way. I am not going down, but upward, so my pathway is never dim. I know the day will be brighter, if I journey with the dear Lord towards the hilltop watching for the sun to rise. Then I can spend the day trying to save some lost soul.

I wonder if there are times when I fail to see the work or mission of love He has reserved for me. We must always be cheerful and hopeful. When we see others who are sad and depressed, we must be happy. By our smiles, they can know we are out in the vineyard working for lost souls.

I know I am growing old but I feel He still has something I can do to reach those still out of the ark of safety. So, as the days come

and go, I will try to walk in His chosen way.

Perhaps He still has some work I have failed to see. If I only can be cheerful and hopeful, when I meet those sad and depressed, perhaps I can better see what it is. There are ways of serving, He alone can understand. I always have loved serving Him in bringing lost ones to Him.

The school year, 1919-1920, I spent in Chicago at Bethany Bible School. I worked my way through by helping others and doing work at the school to pay for my room and board. I had a wonderful eight months. On Easter Sunday, I was able to bring a minister from the Methodist Church, to Christ. He left the Methodist Church. I held the blanket when he was baptized. There were over five hundred present as he told them I won him to Christ. That Easter I won twenty-four for Christ.

Now I am past ninety-four years old and I still pray there are souls I can win.

Sister E. M. Alltus

## OUR SATURDAY NIGHT

### The Thorn Removed

J. H. Moore

The threshers were at Mrs. Style's on Monday, finishing their work in one day. The lady proudly informed her helpers that her extra grocery bill was several dollars. Her own well-stocked fruit closet could not supply her ambitious demand, and dried apricots, currants, prunes, peaches and raisins were purchased to make up the deficiency. Some one said she had fifteen different kinds and forms of fruit, but that seemed a little stretched. However, the fruit, preserves, three kinds of pie, two varieties of cake and the same of cookies, cheese, celery and pickles so completely filled the table that the substantial food, meat, vegetables, and so forth had to be served from a side table. What was left, and could not be consumed by the family, had to be thrown away.

The threshing was done on Monday, and all day Sunday the lady and her daughter baked and stewed for the morrow. Laying aside any consideration of the Lord's Day, was it sensible to make such an effort for the mere sake of display? This tired, overworked woman seldom bakes less than three kinds of pie on Saturday, and should Sunday find her with but one kind of pie, and unexpected company, she promptly bakes more for dinner. She is a good, well-meaning woman, but an uncomfortable hostess, and one who has no time for reading and very little for recreation. She, though a strong woman, has not only worked herself into a nervous condition, but makes her guests nervous. It makes one tired to be around her.



Mrs. Sensible had different ideas about feeding hard-working men. She had the threshers the next Monday. Saturday she baked a goodly batch of cookies and a large loaf cake besides the one for Sunday dinner. She attended services on Sunday morning, rested in the afternoon, and Monday morning found her ready for the fray. When the men went to the city for meat, she sent for bread, cheese, celery and ginger snaps. And with the help of two neighbors she had a dinner fit for a king, without disobeying the laws of nature or nature's God. Not only so, but it was restful to be in her presence. She seemed to take things easy, and yet nothing was neglected.

A wide-awake woman has been watching these things, and has made up her mind that there is no need of a woman making a slave of herself by preparing for company dainty things that serve no good purpose for either the stomach or brain. She says: "Threshers and unexpected guests were at one time my 'thorn in the flesh,' and, in my anxiety, it seemed to me they were, like the poor, 'always with us.' It occurred to me one day that much of the pleasure of life was being marred by the question which came to my mind at the first glimpse of arriving guests, 'What will I have to eat?' and I settled it then and there, that I would really be glad to see them by not straining myself to furnish a luxurious repast, but by giving them a good, square, welcome meal, and myself some time for visiting. It is a genuine pleasure to entertain intelligent, wide-awake, thinking men and women, if our own ideas be not put absolutely to rout by the duties of hostess." This lady has solved the problem. She enjoys her company, and her company is delighted with her.

## NEWS ITEMS

### REPORT OF THE DUNKARD BRETHREN AFRICAN MISSION BOARD

Brother and Sister Paul Stump and Brother and Sister Dale Jamison are scheduled to be in Kenya and Uganda for three weeks leaving the United States, September 19. Brother Godfrey Kiiza, P. O. Box 21188, Kampala, Uganda is anxiously awaiting their coming. They hope to work with him in establishing the Dunkard Brethren Church in Africa. He indicates there are many who await Christian Baptism. Pray for them and the people they are privileged to work with.

Brother Paul indicated car rental passage between the two countries is not allowed and they are faced with transportation problems. Rental vehicles are also quite expensive.

Financial receipts to date are \$6,943.38. We thank you for your giving and solicit your continued support. Make checks payable to the Dunkard Brethren African Mission Board, Mark Andrews, Treasurer; and send to Ray R. Reed, 302 Percival, Dallas Center, IA 50063-1014.

Brother Ray R. Reed, Sec.

### PINE RIDGE, MISSISSIPPI

The Pine Ridge Congregation near Mt. Olive, Mississippi, is planning a three day Revival Meeting prior to our Lovefeast. Evening meetings will be, the Lord providing, on November 1, 2, and 3, with Elder Harley Flory bringing the messages.

Services on Saturday, November 4, with Lovefeast in the evening, followed by regular services on Sunday.

Come fellowship with us.

Sister Ruth Ann Wells, Cor.

### QUINTER, KANSAS

The Quinter Congregation is looking forward to our Revival Meetings with Bro. Rod Renicker, November 5 through 12. We will be holding our Communion Service on Saturday evening the 11th. We invite all to join us in this time of worship and renewal.

Sister Ruthie Clark, Cor.

### PLEASANT HOME, CALIFORNIA

When I read Revival notices in the Monitor, I remember past experiences in many of the congregations and wish I could share with you again.

The Pleasant Home Congregation invites your presence at our upcoming Revival, October 22 through 29, 1995. Bro. Kenneth Wilkerson from the Bethel Congregation, Pennsylvania will be bringing the Word.

Our Fall Lovefeast and Communion is the first weekend of November. Come if you can and remember us in prayer.

Sister Edith Moss, Cor.

### THANKS

#### 94TH BIRTHDAY, JULY 24, 1995

From the beloved Churches all over the United States, from friends and relatives, I received 165 cards and letters. Some sent cards with many names. Several relatives and friends went out of their way to make this a special time for me. I am so thankful for all the cards and gifts I received.

I enjoyed the Conference. No one will ever know how much it meant to see the members I have learned to know in years past.

Thanks, with all my love. May the dear Lord richly bless every one of you is my prayer.

Sister E. M. Alltus

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## WHEN YOU GO TO CHURCH

When you go to church,  
    Leave all the world outside;  
Let the spirit flow  
    Rolling in like a tide.

Ask God for wisdom  
    To receive what is said,  
So your soul is fed  
    With the true Living Bread.

Take heed to His Word  
    So you can reach your goal.  
Who knows? You may help  
    Some poor, wandering soul.

Get nourishing food  
    For your own soul each day,  
Studying God's Word  
    So you won't go astray.  
                    -Irene Stout

## STRETCHING

Oh! It feels so good to stretch. After a nap, a full night's sleep or dozing in a chair, it feels good to stretch our arms and legs. It seems to get the blood flowing. We become more alert. We are ready to tackle the problems before us.

Stretching is important to the one who is exercising. Whether he is a world-class athlete or an over-weight home exerciser, stretching is an important part of his exercise program. Exercise without stretching can cause serious damage to unstretched muscles and tendons. The warm-up phase is important if the exercise is going to accomplish its desired goal. It is a necessary ingredient for success as an athlete.

There is another type of exercising that is not physical. People often need to stretch their minds and attitudes. Just as stretching is important physically, it is also important for the mind. There are different ways the mind may be stretched. It may be stretched through education. The addition of new facts and information can make the mind more knowledgeable. The mind may be stretched by an effort to improve attitudes and personality, which will make him a more successful person. The mind may be stretched by attaining a sense of self-esteem and confidence.

These mind stretching activities can be very positive influences in a person's life or they can be destructive. If they are undertaken with the thought of self-reform, governed only by personal desires, the change can be harmful. If a person comes to depend upon his own strength and ideals, divorced from God's standards and help, he will be led away from the best way. Humility before God is

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**THE BIBLE MONITOR****OCTOBER 15, 1995**

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needed in making these mind stretching changes. There are many ungodly philosophies abroad in the world today that would lead one astray. Humility before God is not a total abasement of a person, it makes sure he has an anchor, so he can be productive in his life.

Stretching is likewise needed in the Spiritual Life. There must be growth and change in each person's Spiritual life. If there is not progress, there will be a falling away.

The goal of the Christian should be to be more and more like Christ. Just as there is a desire to advance in the natural life, so there should be a desire to go forward in the Christian life. Men may have various heroes, whom they emulate to help them become better in their business, sports, or financial lives. These heroes all have faults. Unlike these heroes, Jesus is perfect, worthy of being duplicated.

Knowing the desired outcome of the Christian life, emulating Christ and pleasing God, the Christian must put some effort into it. All desires and dreams need to be put into action. So the fulfillment of Christian desires must be acted upon. Too often Christians can become the prisoners of their good intentions. They desire a change and an advancement, but they procrastinate doing what is necessary.

No Christian, no matter how long he has been a Christian, no matter what official position he may hold, no matter how much he may give of effort or finances, has arrived at the place where he can not improve his Christian life. There will always be some shortcoming that will prevent him from being perfect. Therefore there is a need to stretch. Changes and growth have to occur to follow the Good Shepherd.

Some of the ways of securing this improvement are quite private, others are more public. Private means would include intense Bible study and private prayer in his secret closet. These private activities may lead to a more public form of service. One used to private prayer may be better fit for leading in public prayer. The one who has studied the Bible intently can better direct public Bible study.

Other activities are not so centered on devotional activities. Stretching may include visiting and helping the poor, widows, and other unfortunates. These social activities can not be rendered as good deeds deserving God's repayment. These deeds can not be done separated from the doctrinal and devotional basis of Christianity. These deeds are not Christianity itself. They are the result of Christians stretching to do as Jesus would have done in their places. Some of these activities may be very obscure and hidden from public notice. Jesus never desired the notoriety that He received. He wanted only to do His Father's will.

Stretching is good, physically, mentally and Spiritually. It is



necessary to stretch to attain a higher level in any of these pursuits. Stretching to wake up gets us ready to pursue life. Stretching physically gets our bodies fit for running life's race. Stretching mentally gets our thinking straight. Stretching Spiritually gets us prepared for serving God and His creation.

Have you dared to stretch?

M.C.Cook

## **ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE**

### **"How should a Christian use his leisure time?"**

The manufacture and sale of vacation and sports equipment is one of the fastest growing industries in America. Americans have increasingly more leisure time than ever before in history. The work week for most occupations has dropped to forty hours or less. Although forty hours sounds like a lot of work time to most of us, it is many hours less than the average work schedules of the past. Some companies have adopted a four day work week.

Leisure time is not the same as idleness, especially for the person who values his time. Idleness conveys the meaning of waste. The Christian is taught to "redeem the time." (Eph. 5:16) We bear a responsibility to God for the judicious use of our time and we are just as much a steward of it as we are of our financial resources.

The Christian believes that his faith can be integrated into every facet of his life and indeed, our faith is basic to every part of life. As a result, our faith should help us determine how to spend our "free time." Even though we think of it as freedom from our bread winning regimen, our time is not free from our commitment to Jesus Christ. Christ must be Lord of our leisure time as much as He is of any other part of our life.

Recognizing this, we should not segregate our Christian service to those times when we cannot find anything else to do. Christ reminded the disciples of the urgency of the time and taught them, "Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." (John 4:35).

When we select projects to fill our leisure time, we should remember the spiritual criterion of Colossians 3:17; "And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus..." Some activities are plainly non-Christian while others arouse some doubt. Many hours are carelessly frittered away, absorbed by meaningless recreation, daydreaming or in idle conversation. While these and similar activities may not be wrong in and of themselves, we are bound to examine our leisure by this standard: can I really do it in the

name and for the glory of Jesus Christ? By doing something in Christ's name, we do what we think Christ would be doing. In other words, leisure time does not have to be wasted time.

There is a misconception among many Christian people that in order to adequately "redeem the time," you have to be frantically busy every moment. Martha thought that when Jesus came to her home in Bethany. She was taught by this event that spending leisure time in worship and instruction was a very worthwhile activity.

There is no question that we need to stop our frenzied commotion and listen to the voice of God. Moments of quietness and rest are necessary to fortify our spiritual and emotional reservoirs. In addition, we simply do not have the physical or emotional stamina for ceaseless activity. To constantly abuse ourselves out of "piety" does not show good spiritual judgment.

Something positive should usually be accomplished during our leisure time. Rest improves our quality of work and extends the length of our good health. Just because we fill our life with a frantic succession of activities does not necessarily mean we are redeeming the time, even if those activities involve "Christian service."

No one has ever accomplished as much in a lifetime as Jesus Christ did. Yet, He always had time for everyone who came to Him. He was never too busy to take whatever time was necessary to meet the needs of others. It was He who encouraged His disciples to "Come apart into a desert place..." Though their leisure did not involve anything that was involved in preaching, teaching, witnessing or studying, the Lord prescribed it as a positive value.

Above all, we misuse our time when we "kill it." Leisure hours are held in trust from God. Killing time during our work hours reflects a low opinion of God's gift of life, itself. God prescribed a day of rest. He knew it was necessary for our physical health, emotional balance and spiritual productivity. Killing time goes beyond God's instruction when it becomes an occasion for "sloth."

Certainly, leisure time can be a great blessing or a curse for us as Christians. This depends entirely on our consciousness of our responsibility to do our leisure activities to the glory of God.

Brother Len Wertz

## KEEP MOVING FORWARD

Acts 17:28, "For in him we live, and move, and have our being;..."

Ephesians 5:2, "And walk in love,..."

Ephesians 4:1, "I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called,"

In these scriptures, the verbs, "move" and "walk" suggest a going forward. This does not for a moment imply any other direction but forward. We are not to stand still, unless it is to see the salvation of the Lord and meditate upon Him. Neither does it suggest that we go backward. Our walk with God can only continue if we go forward.

I learned to ride a bicycle at age ten. I would have learned sooner, but as a child I had inner ear problems which affected my balance. One thing you learn really fast when you are learning to ride a bike is to KEEP MOVING FORWARD. If you stop suddenly you can hurt yourself. Of such is the Christian life. We can be hurt if we cease to move forward.

With God there is a reward in view. There is an end in sight. Just as the runner can see the finish line and puts all his effort into reaching it, we can see, by faith, our heavenly reward. In order to achieve it we must KEEP MOVING FORWARD in the Christian life, "Looking unto Jesus, the Author and finisher of our faith."

Moses disobeyed God and was not allowed to enter the Promised Land. Yet God let him see it. Has God given us a glimpse of Glory? Is there a vision in our heart of a place greater than anything in this world? "But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." I Cor. 15:57.

Let us sing though fierce temptation  
Threaten hard to bear us down;  
For the Lord, our strong salvation,  
Holds in view the conqueror's crown.  
He that washed us in his blood  
Soon will bring us home to God.

Brother L. H. Miller

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Newmanstown, PA 17073

## **THE OLD RED SCHOOL HOUSE**

I was born in 1904. When I was six years old I started to school in a one room, red brick building. I completed the 8th grade. Then I went to high school.

I have fond memories of my early school days. Most of my teachers were women. Salaries were low. Few men taught grade school.

Many of the teachers were not from the local area. Usually, they boarded with one of the local house holders. One teacher taught all eight grades.

The school room was heated with a big cast iron coal burning stove. Around this stove was a metal shield to deflect the heat more



uniformly over the room. The shield made a good place to dry gloves and mittens.

The boys sat on one side and the girls sat on the other side. In each back corner was a closet where we hung our wraps and placed our over shoes. It had shelves where we placed our dinner buckets. In the back of the room was a bucket of water and one tin cup. This was before GERMS were discovered.

School attendance increased over the winter months. The older boys had to help put in the spring seeding and help harvest in the Fall. They could only go to school during the Winter months. Several of the women teachers made an agreement with the older boys to serve as janitors. They would sweep and carry water and coal in. They also would carry ashes out, raise and lower the flag, scrub the outside rest rooms, and so forth. It was a good arrangement for the teacher and the boys. The pay was small, but it provided spending money, which was hard to come by, years ago. The boys took turns as janitor.

Each school had a man from the near vicinity who was called the director. He was responsible to see that the school property was well-taken care of. If a window glass was broken, or a stove pipe needed a replacement or the coal was running low, the teacher called the director and he took care of it. It was his responsibility to make sure the school room was thoroughly cleaned before school began in the fall.

When the teacher called a class, those in the class came forward and occupied the front seats. The younger pupils picked up some knowledge by listening to the different classes recite. Some of the subjects taught in grade school were reading, writing, arithmetic, spelling, geography and history.

About once, every two weeks, we had a SPELL DOWN. The boys lined up on one side and the girls on the other. The teacher pronounced the words, starting with the girls. If she could spell the word she remained standing. The next word was given to the boys. If anyone missed a word, that person had to sit down, and the same word was given to the other side.

This continued until there was only one standing, be it boy or girl. The last word given was usually a hard one. If he or she missed the word, the spelling contest was over. If he or she spelled it correctly, that one was declared the champion speller of the day.

Some of the games played at noon and recess were ante over, baseball, drop the handkerchief, jump rope, tag, hide and seek, prisoner's base, marbles, hop scotch and more.

We had cake walks. While there was no money involved, the

girls would bring home made cakes. The cakes were wrapped with the name of the girl inside. The boys would bid on them, each hoping he would get the cake of his favorite girl. Then they would sit together and eat. It was fun. The teacher was the auctioneer. Oftimes there was a little cheating with the cake walk. If a girl had a particular boy she especially liked, before the mock sale began, she would inform him of the color of the wrapping. He would outbid all others. Then they sat together and ate.

Once a year the school put on an entertainment to which the public was invited.

Discipline was a factor years ago. Different teachers used various methods of punishment. A common one was to make the unruly scholar stand on the rostrum with his face towards the blackboard.

Another was to keep him in during recess and noon, not allowing him to go out and play. Most men teachers went a little further. They made an unruly boy come up to the teacher's desk. He pulled out a switch, paddle or piece of hose, and in the presence of every scholar, he gave the boy a good whipping. The rest of the scholars, witnessing the punishment, learned that they had better behave.

Some of the infractions were shooting paper wads with a rubber band, setting tacks on the seat of a pupil who went to recite with his class. Another was dipping a pen in the ink well on his desk, then snapping the pen to splatter ink on another pupil.

As for the girls, most were punished by having them stand on the rostrum or keeping them in during recess and noon or sometimes after school. Today, a teacher dare not strike a pupil.

If a pupil had to go to the rest room, they held up one finger until they got a nod of approval.

The last week of school was a busy week. It was the time for final examinations. After that they gave out the report cards. Those who passed were elated. Those who failed were down hearted. The last day of school climaxed with a picnic including any parents who wanted to come.

The old country school is one of the institutions of learning that went out of existence years ago. The schools have consolidated. The pupils attending the red brick seat of learning had to walk regardless of how far. Today they are hauled by bus. What a difference today from yesterday!

The late Brother Paul R. Myers

## OUR SATURDAY NIGHT

### The Stolen Goose

J. H. Moore

A minister told a member of his congregation that she could not come to church because she had stolen a goose the day before, and had not returned it. The woman in reply said: "Do you suppose that I am going to let a little thing like a goose come between me and my Savior?" One hardly knows whether to frown on account of the woman's spiritual stupidity or to smile because of her innocent wit. True enough, a goose is a little thing to come between a Christian woman and her Savior, and yet, if it is a stolen goose, it becomes large enough to block the way to heaven.

There are people who have no higher conception of Christianity than this misguided woman had. They would not think of permitting a little thing like a pack of cards to stand between them and their Master. They play cards, then go to church and sometimes sing like angels. There are others who will not allow their fine jewelry to come between them and their blessed Jesus, as they say. They wear their costly diamonds and set off their persons with fine ornaments, pretending to think that they are pleasing the Lord.

And, by the way, this thing of men and women going on in their sins, doing this, that, and the other thing, not in keeping with the letter and spirit of the Gospel, and, at the same time, trying to make it appear that they are worshipping God with all necessary sincerity and loyalty, is becoming a little serious. They say that they are not going to permit a little worldliness to come between them and their Savior, and yet it is there all the same. They may appear religious, may possibly die happy, still the stolen goose has never been returned.

We pity the woman on account of her spiritual stupidity, but are there not thousands equally stupid? They may not have stolen, but they are violating some of the plain New Testament commands, and wholly disregarding others. They need to repent and do their first works over, else they may, at the judgment bar of God, find mountains between them and their offended Master.

## SIXTY YEARS AGO

October 15, 1935

### THE TWO WAYS

E. J. Reece

In Matt. 7:13-14 we read of those two ways, the broad way and the narrow way, and to where each leads. One to destruction, the other to life, and as there is only two ways in which to go it is very



evident that we are going on one or the other of these ways.

There is no middle ground. We are either right or wrong, and in as much as we all desire the blessings, which are promised at the end of the narrow way, and in as much as "it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps." (Jere. 10:23.)

How important that we do as David said he did, "I thought on my ways and turned my feet unto Thy testimonies, I made haste, and delayed not to keep Thy commandments. (Psa. 119:59-60.) And in verse 105, "Thy word is a lamp to my feet, and a light unto my path."

And indeed we have plenty of instructions in the word to fully direct us, if we will only open our eyes to see, and our ears to hear. The Word does not only tell what to do, but how to do. Jesus the great teacher, came into the world and marked out the way by precept and example saying, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life: no man cometh unto the Father but by Me." (John 14:6.) He says "learn of Me." (Matt. 11:29.)

And the Apostle Peter tells how much we are to hear Jesus saying: "For Moses truly said unto the fathers, a prophet, shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you. And it shall come to pass, that every soul, which will not hear that prophet, shall be destroyed from among the people." (Acts 3:22-23.)

In II Timothy 3:16-17, we read: "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness; that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." We find the word complete, not only telling us of the narrow way but also how to do, on that way.

In Luke 9:23 Jesus tells us, "If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me." And it is my observation that to deny self is where the pinch comes, because as Solomon tells us, "Every way of man is right in his own eyes; but the Lord pondereth the hearts." (Prov. 21:2.)

Man is so inclined to want to have his own way, and oft times as a good writer said:

If self must be denied;  
And sin forsaken quite,  
They would rather choose the way that's wide  
And strive to think it right.

In the Word it is easy to be seen that the narrow way is to narrow for self, with his carnal mind, walking after the flesh.

But whenever one is made willing to deny himself, take up his cross daily, obey His word, as they did on the day of Pentecost, when

they gladly received the word, and were baptized for the remission of sins, and by so doing they entered in at the strait gate, on the narrow way; not only did they accept the preached word, and were baptized, but the word says, "And they continued steadfastly in the apostles doctrine, and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers."

Mark the word, "they continued in the apostles doctrine." To continue is what Jesus told those Jews which believed on Him, "If ye continue in My word, then are ye My disciples indeed; and ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free." (John 8:31-32.) Right here is where so many fail, by not continuing in the holy words and inspiration by the Master and his holy apostles but allow themselves to be tossed to and fro by every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men whereby they lie in wait to deceive (side tracking).

Jesus is the strait gate, and the narrow way. In John 10:9 Jesus says, "I am the door; by Me if any man enter in, he shall be saved and shall go in and out, and find pasture." "Strait gate," means narrow. Too narrow for "big self." Jesus says ye must be born again. "Except a man be born of water and of the spirit, he can not enter into the kingdom of God," and to all such that are born again, He gives "power to become the sons of God, which were born not of blood, not of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God."

Jesus is also the narrow way. In John 14:6 He says, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life; no man cometh unto the Father but by Me." And if we will only act as wise men and do as Jesus says in Luke 9:23, "And he said unto them all, if any man will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me."

Solomon says, "The way of life is above to the wise, that he may depart from hell beneath." (Prov. 15:24.)

"There is a way that seemeth right unto man, but the end thereof are the ways of death."

The two ways are plainly stated, and also what is to be obtained at the end of these two roads or ways. One to eternal punishment, the other to eternal life. (Matt. 25:46, RV)

The blessings of immortality and a home in heaven with the Father Son and Holy Spirit, and all the redeemed and sanctified, can be obtained by all who are willing to deny self and learn of Jesus and do His will. How it should behoove us to know His way, and understand what the will of the Lord is, so that we might know the false prophets that comes to us in sheep's clothing.

We have the opportunity to make our calling and election sure in life, and it is a matter of choice as to which road we choose, and his servants ye are to whom you obey.

## LET US NOT BE DESIROUS OF VAIN GLORY

Galatians 5:26, "Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another."

The song writer says, "To God be the glory, great things He has done,...". The small dictionary in the back of our home study Bible states, "Glory of the LORD, The word 'glory' is sometimes synonymous with 'God' to avoid referring to God in human form." We understand "vain glory" as a desire to receive the worship and praise that is due only to God.

In I Timothy 3:1 we read, "This is a true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work." And in I Corinthians 12:31 it states, "But covet earnestly the best gifts:..." Then in I Corinthians 14:1 we find, "Follow after charity, and desire spiritual gifts,..." Therefore we come to the conclusion that it is not wrong to desire all that God has for us. Herein lies the crux of the problem. We are to desire all that God has for us.

In the same verse Paul warns against provoking one another. You may think that God has given an individual a certain gift but if they do not discern this you are not to try to force him into your mold. If an individual is called into an office by the Church we believe they should carefully seek the will of God in the matter. The vast majority of the time the individual has already felt the call of God on their heart to fulfill the task that is put before them. We do not subscribe to the teaching that the earthly Church is infallible in all its actions. If an individual truly feels that God has not called them into an office, we believe the Church should respect this.

On the other hand there are individuals who claim to be called to fill a position in the Church that the Bible clearly forbids. This is vain glory. If you do not have the Scriptural qualifications to be a bishop, (which we believe includes an elder and a minister), to claim God's call on your life is nothing less than vain glory. There are also Scriptural qualifications given for a deacon in this same chapter (I Timothy 3) as well as other places. One of the qualifications for both a bishop and a deacon is that they are to be "the husband of one wife." Paul is reinforcing what he has already taught in I Timothy 2:12, "But I suffer not a woman to teach, (Greek: 'didaskkein' = 'authoritative instruction') nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence." This rules out a woman in the office of Elder, minister or deacon. We are also warned against an official being a "novice" which is a beginner. We feel we should be careful about "pushing an individual up the ladder" too quickly. An official is also to be able to "rule well his own house." Therefore we believe our denomination is



correct in not allowing those divorced to hold an office higher than Sunday School official or teacher.

Paul also warns against "envying one another." We may sometimes question the wisdom of the choice of a committee to fill an official position but we must be careful that it is not vain glory that prompts the questioning. If we desire the position and God has called us to this position we should be willing to wait upon the Lord to put us there. If we think someone else is more qualified than the one chosen for the position, is it because of a dislike for the individual chosen? If so we may be guilty of vain glory.

We do not apologize for our stand for the historic Brethren way of life. We are convinced that the farther we drift from our traditions the closer we come to be like the world and the farther we will depart from the ways of Christ. We also recognize that our traditions can be only vain glory. If an individual has never had a true born again experience, plain clothes and lifestyle will not get him into Heaven. If our style of dress is only to attract the attention of men and not for the glory of God it is in vain.

Desire to give all the glory to God and avoid vain glory. To do this we invite you to repent, be baptized by trine immersion and unite with the Dunkard Brethren Church.

Brother James M. Hite  
816 E. Birch St.  
Palmyra, PA 17078-2704

## **ARE YOU DOING SOMETHING OBSCENE?**

Words of Inspiration  
Rev. Brian B. Haller

I don't think it's cost our church any new members, but more than a few visitors to the church office have been shocked to find me talking to the photocopying machine.

It's not the fact that I'm speaking to a machine that's shocking.

To be honest, it's the language.

Unless you've dealt with this machine, you probably won't understand.

You see, it waits.

It waits until you're very busy or running late or copying something real important.

And then it strikes.

It devours, tears, smears, rips and jams...not once, but over and over again.

No one ever walks in while it's running smoothly.

But when it strikes and I lose my temper, I confess I use language that should not be spoken in church...or anywhere else, for that matter.

And that's when someone always walks in.

At times, I've been so embarrassed that when the visitor has asked for the pastor, I've felt like saying, "He's not in today..."

The issue is the second commandment: "You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain."

Easy for him to say; God made Moses a copy of the commandments.

If Moses had ever used our copying machine, maybe there would be only nine commandments.

But there IS a second commandment.

Only I'm not so sure it's about cussing.

Now, before you phone my bishop, please know that I do not condone swearing.

You should not swear because it is embarrassing.

But I think there's much more at stake in the second commandment than bad language.

You will not get into heaven for not swearing. And you'll have to clean up your language there if you do.

I think the second commandment is really about our attempts to use or misuse God.

The very first commandment gives us the real God.

But in our hands, that's risky business.

And so God immediately adds number two: Do not take the Lord's name in vain.

Or...do not try to misuse the God you've been given.

Obviously, God is the greatest power that exists.

It's a risky thing to place such power at the disposal of humans.

Given the chance, we would abuse it; we would take it in vain.

Swearing is simply unnecessary and embarrassing. But trying to use God is obscene.

What amazes me is the number of people and religious groups that would never, ever cuss and that condemn those who do, and yet think nothing of asking God to meet their needs and help them fulfill their wishes and achieve their agendas!

That's not God.

That's a genie-in-a-bottle!

Now THAT is obscene!

The power of God is not available to do your bidding, and Jesus is not here to do your will.

Jesus is here to accomplish God's will and he invites you to join him.

I'm familiar with those, "Whatsoever you ask..." verses, but remember the rest: "in my name."

"In Jesus name" is not a formula at the end of a prayer; it's in keeping with Jesus' will and purpose.

The goal of your spiritual life is not getting God to serve you. It's just the opposite; it's getting you to serve God.

As our culture becomes more secular and religious groups compete and advertise for members, you'll hear more and more of them offering to put God to work for you.

The Mormons have been very successful convincing people that their God will make your marriage work and keep your children wholesome.

There's an entire movement called, "Church Growth" that recommends offering the religious consumers what they want, including a God who is at their disposal.

Statistically, the Church Growth movement works. It is truly obscene.

Of course, God cares about you. But that doesn't mean you know what's best...no matter how noble and pure your needs and motives may seem to you.

There are always repercussions we can't anticipate and side-effects of which we're ignorant.

Pray for God's gracious will to be done.

Anything else is taking God's name in vain.

And taking God's name in vain is really obscene!

selected by Brother Edwin St. John

## NEWS ITEMS ENGLEWOOD, OHIO

An invitation goes out to any and all for our Lovefeast celebration. The Lord willing, we will meet at 11:00 A.M., October 28, afternoon service at 2:00 P.M., Communion Service proper at 7:00 P.M. Sunday service included.

We have been encouraged by adding Brother Mark Flory to our number by the right hand of fellowship. May God's name be praised. We want his wife and sons to feel welcome.

Sister Ruth Speicher, Cor.



## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR NOVEMBER 1995

November 5 - The Broken Commandments-Moses Intercedes - Exodus 32:15-35.

1. Explain the difference in the reactions of Moses about the Golden Calf, when God told him about it on the mountain and when he actually saw it in the camp of Israel.

2. Why was not Aaron among the 3,000 men slain?

November 12 - Promise of Canaan; Moses sees God - Exodus 33:1-23.

1. Compare this tabernacle with the one reared up in chapter 40.
2. Explain the two seemingly contradictory verses in this chapter, verse 11 and verse 20.

November 19 - THANKSGIVING - Psalm 100:1-5.

1. List ways of expressing thanks.
2. Explain how gladly serving the Lord is an expression of thanks.

November 26 - The Ten Commandments Rewritten - Exodus 34:1-35.

1. List the attributes of the Lord given in His own words.
2. Why can we not make covenants with the ungodly?

## YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR NOVEMBER 1995

November 5 - The Sorcerer - Acts 8:9-25.

1. Why did the people of Samaria confuse sorcery with the Power of God?
2. Why cannot the Holy Spirit be purchased with money?

November 12 - Dorcas - Acts 9:36-43.

1. What, in the life of Dorcas, had made a lasting impression on the people?
2. For what purpose did Peter raise Dorcas from the dead?

November 19 - THANKSGIVING - Ps. 118:1,29; Ps. 136:1-4; Rom. 1:21, Col. 3:12-17.

1. Why should we give thanks unto the Lord?
2. Explain the connection between love and thankfulness.

November 26 - The Unknown God - Job 5:8-18, Ecc 3:1-5, Acts 17:22-31.

1. Explain how we can know about God and yet not really know God.
2. What assurance is given those who know God in a personal way?

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## STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP

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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXXIII

NOVEMBER 1, 1995

NO. 21

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## FULLY CONTENT

I know not, and I would not know,  
Content, I leave it all with Thee;  
'tis ever best it should be so;  
As thou wilt have it let it be.

But this I know: that every day  
And every step for me is planned;  
I surely cannot lose the Way  
While He is holding fast my hand.

And surely, whatsoe'er betide,  
I never shall be left alone:  
Thou standest ever by my side;  
To thee my future all is known.

And wheresoe'er my lost may fall  
The way before is marked by Thee;  
The windings of my life are all  
Unfoldings of thy Love to me.

## A PART OF THE WHOLE

The whole is the sum of its parts. Each part needed to make the whole is important. Have you ever been frustrated when putting together a jigsaw puzzle of several hundred pieces to find a piece or two missing? Those small holes betrayed the incompleteness of that picture.

The human body is a prime example of something made up of many small parts. The various parts of the human body have been designed and brought together by the master planner, God. When He created man, God brought together a body, consisting of so many highly developed organs, muscles and structural parts, that it could never have evolved through blind chance.

The various systems of the body are awesome. The skeletal system brings together bones of all sizes, shapes, and proportion, along with muscles, tendons and ligaments. These all work together to make a human being who can walk, sit, run, swim, ski, jump, crawl, and many other activities. The digestive system consists of a number of organs that process the intaken food so the body is provided with its necessary nutrients. The circulatory system delivers blood to all parts of the body. The heart pumps the blood, the blood vessels carry it, and the lungs purify it. The nervous system provides feeling to all areas of the body. This feeling can be of pleasure or pain. Without the nervous system activating pain sensors throughout the body, we would get into more dangerous situations than we do. There are other systems that have a part in the body's functions. These systems all have a part in the body's progress throughout life.

The body could never exist or function if it were made up of only

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**THE BIBLE MONITOR****NOVEMBER 1, 1995**

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one organ. The body needs all its organs to function perfectly. A body that was nothing more than an eye or a foot or a tongue would never be able to function as intended. The body can exist without certain organs, but never as well as with all healthy organs. The body must have a head to function at all. Without a head there would be no impulse to direct the heart to pump blood. There would be no sense to see, taste, feel, hear or smell. The head gives the body direction.

All of these examples concerning the importance of the various parts that make up the body or even a jigsaw puzzle point out the importance of each one who makes up the Church. Each member is important, whether he holds an official position, an office or not. The important thing is the relationship that each member has with the Head of the body. Jesus Christ is the head of His body, the Church. As the Head He has the right to direct and use each member as He sees fit. Through the Holy Spirit He can supply the impulses needed to do the work He desires in each life.

Each part of the body is important in its own way. If parts of the body were like people, they would become jealous of each other and would demand equal attention. The body's organs do not perform that way. They do not give ultimatums. The foot can not say that because it is not the eye, it just will not be a part of the body. It will continue being the foot anyway. The ear can not cease to function just because it is not the eye. Some parts of the body do seem to receive more honor or attention than some others. Usually these parts are the most vulnerable to injury or disease. They are the weakest, so their greater honor is a way of protecting them.

If Church members could work together as well as the parts of the body do, more would be accomplished by the Church. Each member has been given one or more talents to be used for the advancement of the Gospel. Some talents are more visible than others. Some involve an official capacity. All involve using the given talent.

Paul remarked that none at Corinth should consider themselves a part of a party that followed either himself or Apollos or anyone else. They should see these leaders working together to plant and water the Gospel seed. After all, God would bring forth the increase. The farmer, gardener or orchardist can only plant, prune and cultivate. It is God's option to water and warm the crop to make it productive. Paul saw himself as a planter. He saw others as irrigators. As important as these activities were, he also knew that God would ultimately control the destiny of the crop.

As members together in Christ, we have many important functions to perform. Our efforts must work together to be productive. Each effort supplies a necessary part of the whole. We need the

perspective that these efforts are for God's glory. He will use and bless them as He sees fit.

Which part of the body are you?

M.C.Cook

## **OUR TRIP TO KENYA AND UGANDA**

Wednesday 10-3-1995

To all our loved ones at home,

We are all doing well. We arrived safely and had a good flight. We all enjoyed a canal ride in Amsterdam while waiting for our flight to Nairobi. Willis had a nine passenger van reserved for us with a driver and all gas furnished. We were glad for that. We visited six churches in Kenya from September 21 to September 29.

This trip is different from the first one since we stayed at a different place nearly every night. We spent about all our time in the Bush instead of in Nairobi. We saw monkeys, baboons, zebras and gazelles along the way. Everyone seems so happy to see us again. Dale and Doris seem to enjoy every minute of it. Our diet of rice, ugali, bananas and tea seems to be agreeing with everyone real well.

On Thursday the 28th we crossed the border into Uganda and stayed in Tororo overnight. We went on to Kampala on Friday afternoon. After we met Godfrey at the Sheraton Hotel, we came out here to their home. We each have a bedroom with a 3/4 bed. We all are getting along fine. They have no running water but do have a toilet that they flush by pouring in water. Godfrey and Gorrett have three bedrooms, living room, dining room (with nothing in it) and a kitchen (also with no cupboards), just a small charcoal burner to cook and heat water. They are so happy to have us stay with them.

We went to church Sunday. There were about sixty present. We enjoyed a "Dunkard" service. After the service, the van made three trips to Lake Victoria, where twenty-two were baptized. It was an experience that all of us enjoyed and for which we praised the Lord. We will cherish it the rest of our days.

Today we will go to Butombala about 60 miles from here to one of the other missions. We are planning installation this evening and a Lovefeast Saturday evening. Pray for us as we proceed with the work here in Uganda. We are both pleased and impressed with Bro. Godfrey's sincerity to serve the Lord and work with the Dunkard Brethren Church and with the work that he has already started. We expect to return to Kenya on the 9th for a few days before returning home.

With all our love to all,  
Brother Paul and Sister Mary Stump  
Brother Dale and Sister Doris Jamison



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The months have rolled by since God took my dear husband Home and in some ways time heals but in other ways, the emptiness it left in my life lingers on. So many of you were so thoughtful, kind, and compassionate as you expressed your support and sympathy over the time of the death. I am reminded, again and again, of how grateful I am for a Church family and most of all for the Lord Who is the Great Comforter.

The Lord has not failed me and His grace is sufficient. He has been proven faithful over and over again. Often, it is through His people that He works and that is why I am writing.

The children are off playing and making noise. They add so much to my life and I am so thankful for them. But I am lonely. How often I long to talk to other adults, to hear the sound of gravel crunching as a car pulls in the driveway and know that I can enjoy the privilege of visiting with some grown people instead of relating only to little children. Maybe you men feel somewhat awkward coming to the house where there is no other man to visit with. May I suggest you bring another couple with you? Or, come prepared to work. There are so many needs around the house that I feel helpless in repairing - things I always counted on a husband to do.

Last week the lawn mower made a funny sound and then quit. Do I call a serviceman and pay a big bill? There is a leaky spigot and a porch floor needing repair. I try to be as independent as I can but somehow I believe God's people miss out on God's blessings when they fail to visit and help the widows. I know I am special in God's sight - He talks about widows so often in His Word. I know He will look after me with or without your help but somehow I believe we would all be blessed by your help and involvement.

Along with your visit, I would welcome your offer to have devotions before you leave. I miss my husband leading our family in times of reading, inspiration, and prayer. It would be good to have my children see a man filling that role.

Forgive me if I sound like I am complaining. I do not mean to. God would not have allowed me to fill the role of widow if He did not have a special reason for it. I know He will see me through. And thanks for all the help you have been. I do not want to sound unappreciative. I just want to remind you what God Himself says in His Word: "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction..." James 1:27. If you come visit me, you will see some of my needs. And then together, we will grow closer to the Lord.

Your widowed sister



## WHAT HAVE WE GIVEN UP FOR SECURITY?

Psalm 37:3, "Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed."

Has the church given in to the spirit of the Age? Have we yielded to peer pressure and stopped fighting the good fight of faith? In the next few paragraphs this writer would like to examine these questions and what the church has lost in order to be secure in this world.

Brethren of old, and we are thinking of those who settled this country, were simple, God-fearing folk. They came to be able to worship God as the Bible taught. They had to trust in the Lord because they had no earthly security. The Psalmist said, some trust in chariots, some trust in horses, but I will trust in the Lord my God. Today there is an emphasis on retirement plans, health care benefits, and different types of insurance.

Those who followed Jesus had to trust Him because they were not even plying their trade. Years ago, to have a trade, to be able to work with your hands was enough. Today man is interested in what benefits he can acquire. None of us, including this writer, are exempt.

What can we get from the government today? What does the government owe us? Could this all be a part of the big picture, the "peace and safety" that we read about? Could our laxity and comfort be feeding our lack of faith? Perhaps the world is so spiritually dead today because it does not need God, and perhaps government programs have taken the place of the church in needy peoples' lives.

We read in the parable of the sower that the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the Word and causing one to become unfruitful. (Matthew 13:22)

The Brethren, always, have taught that the world is in direct conflict with the spiritual life. Jesus taught it. We can learn to depend on Christ or we can learn to depend on the world. It is possible for the Lord to be displeased with our choice of a vocation. The argument is often brought forth that a higher-paying job generates more revenue for the Lord's work. We must maintain that the Lord would be more pleased with a vocation that honors and glorifies Him, regardless of the rewards. God will not bless ill-gotten gain, no matter how much of it you have. Though we hear less about it today than in the past, II Corinthians 6:14 still tells us, "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers:..." This scripture does not just mean marriage, but I believe it includes every aspect of our Christian lives. The church cannot afford to sell out to the world.

Brother Lynn H. Miller

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Newmanstown, PA 17073

## GOING TO BE WITH THE LORD

(Read I Thessalonians 4:13 to the end of chapter 5)

For many years there have been cults who have denied various truths connected with our Eternal Home with the Lord Jesus Christ. There were also "fringe line groups" who were evangelical in some respects but denied some of the same truths as the cults. Today, there are those who claim to be a part of the evangelical mainstream who deny these truths. We have addressed this concern in previous writings but feel led to do so again.

The fourth chapter of I Thessalonians starting at verse thirteen and chapter five deals with these truths either directly or indirectly. By the grace of God and hopefully with the leading of the Holy Spirit we want to examine a portion of this Scripture.

The verses in I Thessalonians chapter 4 deal, of course, with the second coming of Jesus Christ. Before we deal with this truth we want to think about those who die in the Lord before this event. The teaching of "soul sleep" seems to be gaining adherents. According to this teaching only God is immortal therefore man can not have an eternal soul. In a sense they are correct in saying that a man does not have a soul but is a soul. Our soul is our real being, as we understand it. There is discussion concerning the soul and the spirit in some religious circles that we feel leads to more confusion than enlightenment. It is also true that only God is immortal and eternal. This does not mean that man does not have a never dying soul but that our whole being had a beginning which is not true of God. Paul affirms the fact that man has (or is) a living soul and a triune creation. In verse 23 of chapter 5 he states, "...and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."

One of the verses that would seem to teach "soul sleep" actually affirms the truth of a never dying soul. In I Thess. 4:14 we read, "For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him." If those who "sleep in Jesus" do not have a never dying soul alive in Heaven, how can God bring them back with Christ at His second coming?

Another teaching in relation to "soul sleep" is the denial of eternal punishment. Paul alludes to this in chapter 5 verse 9. "For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ." We will not take the space to quote them but a careful study of the Gospels will reveal verses that show that the Lord Jesus Christ taught an everlasting Hell and punishment. At His second coming both death and Hell will be cast into the lake of fire. In this continuing place of punishment, Revelation 20:10 says that the devil, the beast

and false prophet (the unholy trinity) will all be found in the lake of fire "and shall be tormented day and night, for ever and ever." Then in verse 15 we find, "And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." There is no reason not to believe that this will be the same for them as it is for the unholy trinity found in verse 10.

But, Hallelujah, there is a great time for those whose names are found written in the Book of Life. "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air; and so shall we ever be with the Lord." Are you aware that some "evangelical" individuals are teaching that we do not go to Heaven but that this earth will be Heaven? Not according to these verses! We, personally, believe this is the same event described in Revelation 1:7. "Behold, he cometh with clouds, and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen."

Are you ready to go to be with the Lord whether at death or His second coming? Only salvation through the blood of Jesus Christ can prepare you for this event.

Brother James M. Hite  
816 E. Birch St.  
Palmyra, PA 17078-2704

## **CHRIST IN EVERY BOOK IN THE BIBLE**

The Holy Scriptures declare that in the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God; and the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among men. That flesh was Jesus, the lowly Nazarene. He permeates the Word of God with His holy presence. He springs forth from every sacred page to meet every man today in the form of His need.

In Genesis He is the "Seed of the Woman."

In Exodus He is the "Passover Lamb."

In Leviticus He is our "High Priest."

In Numbers He is the "Pillar of Cloud by Day and the Pillar of Fire by Night."

In Deuteronomy He is "Prophet like unto Moses."

In Joshua He is the "Captain of our Salvation."

In Judges He is the "Judge and Lawgiver."

In Ruth He is our "Kinsman-Redeemer."

In 1 and 2 Samuel He is our "Trusted Prophet."



In Kings and Chronicles He is "Reigning King."

In Ezra He is our "Faithful Scribe."

In Nehemiah He is the "Rebuilder of Broken Walls" of our shattered lives.

In Esther He is our "Mordecai."

In Job He is our "Ever-living Redeemer."

In Psalms He is the "Lord Our Shepherd."

In Proverbs and Ecclesiastes He is our "Wisdom."

In the Song of Solomon He is the "Lover and Bridegroom."

In Isaiah He is the "Prince of Peace."

In Jeremiah and Lamentations He is our "Weeping Prophet."

In Ezekiel He is wonderful "Four-Faced Man."

In Daniel He is the "Fourth Man in the Fiery Furnace."

In Hosea He is the "Eternal Husband," married to the backslider.

In Joel He is "Baptizer with Holy Ghost."

In Amos He is our "Burden-Bearer."

In Obediah He is "Our Saviour."

In Jonah He is the great "Foreign Missionary."

In Micah He is "Messenger of Beautiful Feet."

In Nahum He is our "Avenger."

In Habakkuk He is the "Evangelist," pleading for a revival.

In Zephaniah He is "The Lord Mighty To Save."

In Haggai He is the "Restorer of the Lost Heritage."

In Zechariah He is the "Fountain Opened in the House of David," for sin and uncleanness.

In Malachi He is the "Sun of Righteousness" rising with healing in His wings.

In Matthew He is the "Messiah."

In Mark He is the "Wonder Worker."

In Luke He is the "Son of Man."

In John He is the "Son of God."

In Acts He is the "Holy Ghost" moving and working among men.

In Romans He is the "Justifier."

In 1 and 2 Corinthians He is the "Sanctifier."

In Galatians He is the "Redeemer" from the curse of the law.

In Ephesians He is "Christ of unsearchable Riches."

In Philippians He is the "God Who Supplieth All Our Need."

In Colossians He is the "Fullness of the Godhead Bodily."

In 1 and 2 Thessalonians He is our "Soon Coming King."

In 1 and 2 Timothy He is the "Mediator Between God and Man."

In Titus He is the "Faithful Pastor."

In Philemon He is the "Friend of the Oppressed."

In Hebrews He is the "Priest of the Everlasting Covenant."

In James He is the "Lord Who Heals the Sick."

In 1 and 2 Peter He is the "Chief Shepherd" who soon shall appear.

In 1, 2 and 3 John He is "Love."

In Jude He is the "Lord Coming with Ten Thousand of His Saints."

In Revelation He is "King of kings and Lord of lords."

Submitted by the late Brother Paul R. Myers

## **SIXTY YEARS AGO**

November 1, 1935

WHERE ART THOU?

Ida M Helm

Where art thou? This question came to Adam from God. Adam had forfeited his high estate and hid himself among the trees of the garden. The slime of the serpent and the marks of sin were clinging to him and he feared to meet God. "I'm naked," was his plaintive cry. Alas his beautiful robe of righteousness that robed his body in a halo of glory was gone, he no longer bore the image of God in innocence and purity. He was conscience smitten and naked to the afflictions and adversities and stings of the evil one whose voice he heeded instead of the voice of God. He was driven from Eden subject to sin, decay and death.

The story of Absalom teaches us that the way of the transgressor is hard. Absalom thought he could in an underhand way have himself crowned king. No crime was too degrading to stop him in his efforts to overthrow the throne of his father the king of Israel, and set up a throne for himself. In the midst of his treachery the cry came from the lips of his almost heartbroken father, "Is the young man safe? Where is my son Absalom? Absalom, hanging, dangling from the branches of a tree by his beautiful long hair of which he was so vain, proclaims that sin so attractive at first, at last biteth like a serpent and stingeth like an adder. Joab took three darts in his hand, and thrust them through the heart of Absalom, while he was yet alive in the midst of the oak." (II Samuel 18:14.) His life ended in ruin. There is no loss like the loss of a soul! "They that sow the wind shall reap the whirlwind."

When we first met King Saul he was a goodly young man. He was humble and willing to love and obediently serve God and love his fellowman. But there came a time when he turned from God and forsook His commands. When he separated himself from God an evil spirit took the place of the Spirit of God in his heart. Saul wanted to go his own way and God left him to work out the results of an evil heart and a life guided by selfishness and sin, away from God, the

only one who can control and direct us and lead us from victory to victory over sin and the evil one.

The enemies of Israel were many and they were on the alert, but King Saul left the task of over coming them and spent his time hunting for David, the man God chose for the next king. Envy, passion, revenge sapped the life of this ungodly man. His kingdom tottered thorough neglect and sin. His army became discouraged and when his last great battle arrayed itself for the fight and the people looked for the king he was away consulting a witch instead of counseling from God and preparing for his work. Saul perished miserable, a suicide. No one can tell what the end will be when he first forsakes the counsel of God and starts to follow his own inclination.

We have a mighty foe, Satan; he is deceitful, cunning, treacherous, malicious, ever seeking to bring trouble and sorrow on God's children. Obedience to God in all things and trust in His power is our only hope.

### **A SAD STORY**

Once upon a time there was a church staff looking for teachers for children and preschoolers and youth.

And some adults said, "I don't want to leave the sweet fellowship and study with my adult class." (But the drug pusher on the street said, "Not even the threat of jail will keep me from working with your children.")

And some adults said, "I could never give the time required to plan and go to teachers' meetings." (But the pusher, the porno book dealer, and the movie producer said, "We'll stay open whatever hours are necessary everyday to win the minds of kids.")

And some adults said, "I'm unsuited, untrained, unable to work with children, preschoolers or youth." (But the movie producer said, "We'll study, survey, spend millions to produce whatever turns kids on.")

So...the adults stayed in their classes and enjoyed the sweet fellowship and absorbed the good Bible Study, and could go out of town often on the weekend and were available to do whatever was good to do on Wednesday or Sunday nights instead of teachers' meetings.

And when Sunday came, the children came to their classes and no one was there except the church staff going from one room to another trying to assure them that someone would surely come to teach them some Sunday soon. But no one ever came, and the young children soon quit coming because they had gone to listen to others who did care about the things they did and what went into their minds...

Selected by Sister Mildred Skiles



## HOW WOULD WE SCORE?

A new comer to a community decided to search for a new church home. For eighteen Sundays he visited eighteen different churches. He followed the same plan for each church. He dressed neatly and sat near the front. After worship he would walk slowly to the rear. If there were a side aisle he would turn and walk back to the front and go slowly to the back again. If fellowship were offered after worship, he would ask directions to the fellowship hall and stay. He used the same scoring card for each church.

10 for a smile from a worshiper

10 for a greeting from someone

100 for an exchange of names

200 for an invitation to stay for fellowship

1000 for an introduction to another worshiper

1000 for an invitation to meet the pastor

By this scale, 11 of his 18 churches scored fewer than 100 points and 5 received less than 20.

He concluded that the music may be beautiful, the doctrine Biblical, the sermon inspiring, but if no one in the church cared that he was present, he did not want to return.

This is a sad, but true story we can learn from!

Selected by Sister Pam Franklin

## PARENTS

They may not be wise as the wisest,

they may not be clever or strong.

There'll be times you will think that their counsel  
is narrow or utterly wrong.

You will think when they frown upon pleasure—  
which you are so eager to share

That your father and mother who love you  
are merely an old-fashioned pair.

But this they would have you remember,  
whatever they say or do

It's not of themselves they are thinking—  
their thoughts are all centered in you.

There are those who will flatter to please you  
for something they're eager to gain.

There are those who will seem to befriend you  
who will never constant remain.

Some strangers will lead you to folly

and leave you the moment it's done.  
Some, not caring what harm may befall you  
will tempt you with dangerous fun.  
You may question the motives of others,  
but remember your whole lifetime through  
Your father and mother who love you  
have no other motive than you.

There is nothing of profit they're seeking;  
there's nothing they want you to buy.  
You've no reason to doubt what they tell you;  
they've nothing to gain by a lie.  
Whenever they check or correct you,  
it is not for themselves that they speak,  
They would happier be could they praise you  
but it's only your welfare they seek.  
You may think them old-fashioned and fussy  
and narrow, as children will do.  
But remember your father and mother  
have all their hopes centered in you.

Selected

## OUR SATURDAY NIGHT

Satan and Wealth

J. H. Moore

One time a very zealous church worker said to me that he wished he was a rich man. He would like to come into possession of millions of dollars. We have hundreds of people who would be pleased to have a few million dollars come their way, and some of them are doing their utmost to work up to the million-dollar point, but money is not accumulated by wishes. It takes more than mere wishes to produce dollars. But this earnest man said he did not want the money for his own use, for he would like to spend thousands of dollars to help poor churches. Certainly his motives were good, and some are made to wonder why the Lord does not help such men to make money by the million. They think he helps others to accumulate fortunes, and why not help those who want to do good with their wealth?

It is altogether probable that the Lord is not helping very many of the millionaires to pile up their big fortunes. He may be helping some of them, but judging by the methods employed and what they are doing with their money, I cannot avoid concluding that the devil has

more to do with many of the great enterprises than anybody else. I further believe that the devil does his utmost to keep faithful and earnest gospel preachers as poor as possible. It is common for men of wealth to give the Lord credit for the property they have been permitted to accumulate. In many instances it would be far more consistent for them to give the devil credit for their prosperity. A man who employs dishonorable methods to accumulate wealth is a child of Satan and not a child of God, and he should know that Satan, his father, rather than the Lord, is helping him to become rich. It is likely that Satan does not want a million dollars to find their way into the hands of the kind of men referred to in the beginning of this article. They would make too wise a use of their possessions.

A rich man once told me that he was so thankful that the good Lord had blessed him with an abundance of this world's goods. I happened to know something about a few of his business transactions, and I certainly felt like telling him that in my judgment he should thank the devil for considerable of his wealth, for I was quite sure that the Lord could not sanction some of his work. The Lord helped Job as well as Abraham, and under the blessings of heaven they both became very rich, but I feel quite confident that he did not help Herod the Great to acquire his vast fortune. Nor does he help other rich men who employ dishonorable methods in the accumulation of millions.

The way some people, and even church members, too, at that, employ their wealth, prompts me to conclude that the Lord surely has not given them their earthly possessions. They spend a whole life accumulating property, become immensely wealthy, and then pass out of this world without showing the least appreciation for the help they claim to have received from the Giver of all that is good. It occurs to me that the men and women who give freely for the Lord's work are the ones whom the Lord has been blessing and helping, and it would be easy to name a number of consecrated people who made the wisest possible use of their wealth while living, and left much to be employed for good purposes after being called to their reward. But, candidly, I am not able to understand why the Lord should help a man accumulate a great fortune merely for his own selfish use, and then to turn it over to the world after he is done with it. Possibly the devil has more to do with making rich men than some of us have been led to think.



## OBITUARY

### MARY LEATHERMAN

Sister Mary M. Leatherman was born March 4, 1909, at Antioch, West Virginia to George and Martha (George) O'Brien. She departed this life August 17, 1995, at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

At a young age, she accepted the Lord as her Savior at Ridge Dunkard Brethren Church. She was married to Brother Thomas Leatherman, and to this union was born three children: Sister Ruth Cease of Biglerville, Pennsylvania and Richard and James Leatherman.

In 1951, they moved to Gettysburg, and later she became a member at Walnut Grove Dunkard Brethren Church. She worked at Carroll Shoe Company in Littlestown. After a short illness, she went to live in a nursing home in Gettysburg.

Mary was preceded in death by her husband, Thomas, and two sons, Richard and James. She is survived by her daughter, Ruth (Mrs. John Cease), two sisters, Grace Surbey and Ethel Leatherman, Littlestown, Pennsylvania, two brothers, Herbert O'Brien, Hanover, Pennsylvania and Emory O'Brien, Purgettsville, West Virginia, eight grandchildren and seventeen great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Monday, August 21 at Monahan Funeral Home in Gettysburg. Elders Emmert Shelly and Paul Nell, and Brother Galen Shelly officiated at the services and gravesite. Elder Virgil Leatherman was the chorister. Burial was at Oak Lawn Memorial Gardens near Gettysburg.

The family wishes to thank everyone for the flowers, cards and prayers. May God bless you all.

Sister Ruth Cease and family

## NEWS ITEM

### Ministerial List Change

The new address for Brother Galen S. Shelly is 537 California Road, Littlestown, Pennsylvania 17340. His telephone number is 717-359-8899.

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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXXIII

NOVEMBER 15, 1995

NO. 22

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## I'm THANKFUL

I'm thankful for the clear blue skies,  
The rain and sunshine, too.  
I'm thankful for the growing flowers,  
Covered with the morning dew.

I like to watch the autumn come,  
With all its changing colors.  
The fields of ripening beans and corn  
To harvest takes many hours.

I'm thankful for my food and shelter  
From winter's cold and snow.  
The beauty of whiteness all around,  
Some have not the joy to know.

The warm spring breezes come along,  
Buds and sprouts everywhere.  
Life is bursting forth again;  
Songbirds are in the air.

This only touches a tiny part  
Of all my thankfulness,  
For time and words can never tell  
All that I'd like to express.  
-Irene Stout



## JOB AND THANKSGIVING

Never did a mortal suffer as Job. Only Jesus ever suffered more. His suffering was on a different scale, that could not be comprehended by humans. Job suffered in patience. Although, we appeal for the "patience of Job," few ever achieve his level of patience.

He did not understand why he must suffer. He did not know about Satan's tests. He might have questioned why it was happening to him, but he maintained his integrity with God.

His losses were great. He lost not only his wealth, which was measured by the animals he possessed, but also his family. He had every reason to mourn and regret his loss. Although ignorant of the real cause, he remained assured that he had not provoked God to punish him.

Satan questioned Job's motives for serving God. God presented Job for Satan's consideration. Satan answered that Job only served God for the material benefits that he enjoyed. During the first test Satan was allowed by God to only take Job's possessions from him. He was not allowed to touch his body. When Job passed this test, Satan was not content. He wanted to prove Job further. During the second test he was allowed to touch Job's body, but not take his life. This test was far more severe than the first.

One of the toughest parts of this test was the lack of Spiritual understanding by his wife. She counseled him to curse God and prepare to die. This was hard advice for him to hear from his life companion. He, still, would not blame God for his misfortunes.

His three friends came to visit and comfort him. They proved to be poor comforters. They could only look at the outward appearance.

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## THE BIBLE MONITOR

NOVEMBER 15, 1995

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They drew the conclusion that since God punishes sinners, Job must be a great sinner to have been punished so severely. Although they spoke many truths, they misapplied those lessons in Job's case.

Eventually Job's troubles were turned. His wealth and family were restored to him in greater abundance than what he possessed at the first. He learned how to forgive.

It would seem in the midst of all these troubles and trials, Job would hardly have anything to be thankful for. Although he does not express his thanksgiving for this experience in so many words, we would believe that at its conclusion he was thankful for what this experience had wrought in his life. The Apostle Paul instructed that thanks should be given at all times unto God. This principle was good for Job and for us, as well. Giving thanks, even when we can hardly be thankful, is a wonderful exercise that develops thankfulness within us. Even though not totally thankful at the beginning, just having an attitude of thankfulness can bring thankfulness within our lives.

What did Job have to be thankful for? He had lost his wealth, his health, his family, the support of his wife and the comfort of his friends. Was there anything left to be thankful for?

He could be thankful God had greater power than Satan. Although his testings were sore and severe, there was a limit placed upon them. If God had not limited Satan, other tests may have been added to those already given. Satan is powerful, but God is omnipotent.

He could be thankful that he had a wife. Although her Spiritual perception was not as strong as his own, she still was a companion to him. She was not condemned after her passionate outburst. Loved ones may make emotional statements, though wrong and hurtful, that we can overlook because of their position in our affections.

He could be thankful for a choice in his situation. He was not a puppet without a choice. Although God allowed Satan great latitude in dealing with Job, still there were choices for Job to make in responding to his situation.

He could be thankful for his friends. They did not prove to be perceptive. They were not as comforting as Job might have hoped, nevertheless they had come to him. When his body was grossly disfigured by the boils, many would have avoided him. His three friends did come even in his hour of extreme discomfort and distorted appearance.

He could be thankful for the lessons that he gleaned from this experience. He had learned to forgive. His whole condition turned when he forgave. Others may not have deserved his forgiveness, but he was willing. Thereon hung his restoration.

At this Thanksgiving season, how many lessons can we learn from Job's experience? How many lessons can we learn from our

own lives' experiences?

Can you be thankful this season, even though you have suffered?

M.C.Cook

## AFRICA

What did we find in Africa? Matt. 28:19-20, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world."

On September 19, 1995, Bro. Paul and Sis. Mary Stump and Bro. Dale and Sis. Doris Jamison left the United States for Amsterdam, Netherlands. After an eight hour lay over, our flight proceeded to Nairobi, Kenya. Upon arrival at the Nairobi Airport, there were ten or twelve pastors to greet us. Paul and Mary had met most of them when they visited Kenya last January.

A van had been leased, furnished with a driver and gas for our almost a month's stay. We traveled over 3,000 miles in Kenya and Uganda. Some of the Kenya pastors went with us to many churches in East Africa. We were taken back into the bush for many of the services that we attended.

I had been of the opinion that the bush was some remote area, but we found it highly populated, with heavy rainfall and very productive soil. Each farm consisted mainly of one or two acres. All the tools used were hand tools. On this a family of four to twelve must make a living. Our diet that we ate with the natives in Kenya was mostly rice, maize, green bananas, that were cooked, little pieces of meat and also delicious fresh fruits. Africans do not eat desserts. We got along just fine, but we did purchase all our own drinking water.

We had several experiences in Kenya with accident patients and sickness. We felt they must see a doctor, but the family did not have the money. We did take them to the doctor and hospital for care. On arrival, we found out they will not do anything towards helping the patients, without any money, not even first aid. So we paid the bill in advance for doctor and hospital care. We had some good experiences and good fellowship with the different churches.

Now, it was time to go over to Kampala, Uganda, some 400 or so miles away. We were met in Kampala by Bro. Godfrey Kiiza. We were taken to his home where we stayed for the next ten days. He had been married only a month before. We felt we were almost imposing too much on a new bride, but we were treated royally and certainly enjoyed being with them.



Many, there, were asking for baptism. We gathered together one evening for instruction for the applicants for baptism. Many questions were asked. Bro. Godfrey had already instructed them well.

Sunday morning, church was at ten in the building Bro. Godfrey had rented. There were around seventy-five present, along with many university students.

Baptism was held immediately after service. Four or five van loads of people were taken to the waters of Lake Victoria. Twenty-two were baptized. It was a great sight to see this many applicants lined up in a row waiting their turn, eager to be next. We are praising God for this wonderful experience. There are many, many more waiting to be baptized, but Bro. Godfrey feels they need more instruction.

The Dunkard Brethren Church of Africa has had its beginning. Bro. Godfrey is a very spiritual man who has worked hard in the ministry and we have seen great results. He also has several young men who stand by him in the work. At every mission point we saw men willing to work, who were very capable of conducting a service.

We traveled to Butanbala, another mission point about seventy-five miles from Kampala, where there were seventy-five to one hundred people for services. We found very poor people at this location. They do not have a churchhouse but we pray that the Lord will provide means for helping them to build a church.

Very few, if any, of the children present that day have had any formal education. They can not read or write and their parents are illiterate.

Bro. Godfrey wanted to start some basic education and some trade schooling for them. Bro. Godfrey goes out to this mission once a week. It involves a three hour bus trip, then he walks five miles back into the village, then five miles back to the highway often waiting three hours for a bus to come along. Are you that dedicated?

We went back to Kampala again, where we visited many homes. We were also invited to have services in a university. Everywhere there was a good response to the Gospel. All would say "welcome", even the little children.

We felt the need for a van for Bro. Godfrey. A used van was purchased, thanks to Bro. and Sis. Stump, who paid for the van until they can be reimbursed.

Bro. Godfrey and Sis. Gorret felt he should be installed into the ministry by the laying on of hands. Bro. Dale and Bro. Paul performed the installation.

The new members wanted to go through a Love Feast and Communion Service. We needed to shop for provisions for this. Have you ever experienced a Communion service by candlelight?

We feel the work Bro. Godfrey has started will grow and grow.

But it will take an effort and prayers on our part and some money must be spent.

How do you separate extreme poverty, health care and basic education from need for spiritual training? John 3:16, "God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

Everyone has a right to these opportunities: 1. Have the gospel of Jesus Christ. 2. Have a Bible available in his or her own language. 3. Have a Christian fellowship nearby, so they can meet, have biblical teaching, prayer and worship with others in the body of Christ. 4. Have a Christian education available for his or her children. 5. Have the basic necessities of life; food, water, clothing, shelter and health care.

Pray for the body of Christ in Africa! Pray for the workers! The work in Uganda is a field ready to harvest with three or four mission points already established. We feel the need for a team to return to Uganda, possibly annually, to encourage and support the work.

Bro. Paul and Sis. Mary are to be commended for the ground work they have laid and the money they have given. They are respected and loved by all. Many of the natives have said, "You must come back."

Upon returning home we have had to stop and consider how rich we really are. If you are ever privileged to go to Africa, I do not care how much money you should take along, you will come home empty handed if you have any compassion at all. Jesus had compassion on the multitude. Matt. 25:35-36, "For I was an hungered, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me."

Matt. 25:80, "And the king shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

We have gone; we have seen; life can never be the same for us.

Brother Dale and Sister Doris Jamison

### **TAKE TIME TO BE THANKFUL**

Nehemiah 12:31, "Then I brought up the princes of Judah upon the wall, and appointed two great companies of them that gave thanks,..."

After a time of great difficulty the Israelites were finally able to celebrate the completion of the wall of Jerusalem. Verse 27 of this chapter tells us that they "sought the Levites out of all their places." The Levites, while not all priests, were given a special place in Israel's religion. In order to be a priest one had to be a Levite and also



belong to Aaron's family. These Levites were brought to Jerusalem "to keep the dedication with gladness." This was to be a time of both thanksgiving and singing accompanied by cymbals, psalteries and harps.

While our Brethren forefathers did not recognize holidays, they observed "Thanksgiving" many years before this holiday was made official. After their times of harvest, they always set aside a special time to give thanks to God. We believe it is also good for us to take a time to give thanks to God for all the blessings we have received. Of course, this should be a part of our life the whole year through, as well.

We thank God for our Brethren heritage. We are aware that tradition can become a stumbling block and become a replacement for a genuine born again experience through the shed blood of Jesus Christ. Time and time again, we have been made aware that plain dress is a witness to the world that we are a part of the family of God. We recently received a request for one of our plain hats to be placed in a museum. We are convinced that the plain people are losing their outward testimony to the world at a fast pace. Sadly, it being replaced by immodest and worldly attire in most instances.

As we think about Thanksgiving we are made to think that this is one holiday that is largely bypassed by the world. Our mailbox has been filled with calendars for the New Year for several months already. To us a symbol of the fast pace this world follows. Religious organizations and secular charities send us Christmas cards (which we do not use) in hopes of receiving a contribution. We did receive one lonely Thanksgiving card that we recall. People are waiting in anticipation of the Christmas and New Year's parties that will put them in the category of "lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God." These are listed along with "unthankful" as signs of the last days in II Timothy 3.

On the more positive side, while taking one of our walks for health we passed a couple who lives in our town. He is deaf and we believe unable to talk. His wife stricken by some unknown, to us, disease sits in a wheelchair with crippled hands and legs. We had to take time to be thankful that God has allowed us to be able to both hear and talk. Oh how thankful we can be that we were able to walk and use our hands.

We have suffered from stomach trouble for several years now, along with various other physical maladies. We thank God that the stomach trouble was finally diagnosed as a fairly simple problem and all our problems together have not caused us to lose one day's work for over six years now. We thank God that we have a sufficient paycheck to pay all our bills and put some away in savings. We thank God for our daily "bread" and the ability to eat it. We thank Him for a



house to keep us dry when it rains and warm in the winter. We thank Him for the many extra blessings we have in this life such as two vehicles, this typewriter/word processor we are now using and many other things. Our closet is filled with clothes and the laundry room has a washer and dryer to keep them clean. We could go on and on.

Most of all, of course, we thank God for the gift of the Lord Jesus Christ and our salvation through Him. If we should lose all of our earthly blessings, like Job, if the doctor would speak that dreaded word "cancer," we can still thank God for our eternal home in Heaven, if we are born again and made a Son or Daughter of God.

Let us take time to be thankful.

Brother James M. Hite  
816 E. Birch St.  
Palmyra, PA 17078-2704

## **BROKEN THINGS**

It takes a broken shell to use an egg.

It takes broken soil to produce a crop.

It takes broken grain to give bread.

It takes a broken colt to become a useful horse.

It takes broken clouds to give rain.

It takes broken bread to give strength.

It took a weeping, broken Peter to become a preacher.

It took a broken Judas Iscariot to return the money he received to betray Christ.

It took a broken alabaster box to give perfume.

It takes a broken and contrite heart to admit to having done wrong.

It takes a broken glass at a fire alarm box before the fire department can be called.

The seal of a package must be broken before it can be opened.

The band on a sheaf of grain must be broken before the grain can be threshed.

We must break pride to become humble.

We must break doubt before we can have faith.

We must break away from discouragement and confusion before we can have that peace of God which surpasses all understanding.

We must break our own stubborn will before we can do the will of God.

We must break away from the ways of the world before we can enjoy the ways of the Lord.

Compiled and Composed by  
The late Brother Paul R. Myers

## RULES AND HOW TO KEEP THEM

"If ye love me, keep my commandments." John 14:15.

"If a man love me, he will keep my words." John 14:23.

Everyone has certain rules that he keeps. Call them morals or a code of ethics; call them what you will. Even the most sociopathic individual has some kind of code to live by, even if he has committed murder. The Ten Commandments set down in the Book of Exodus have become the foundation for an entire civilization. Today with millions of laws on the books and the prisons bursting at the seams this nation would have been better off had it kept those original ten.

Yet, people cannot be made to keep laws and rules without some kind of consequences for their actions. The carnal man must know that punishment awaits anyone breaking the law.

But, Jesus says, I show you a more excellent way. This more excellent way is Love. It is a regeneration of the heart through faith and trust in the finished work of Jesus Christ. He says, IF YOU LOVE ME you WILL keep my commandments. Our WILL will no longer be for ourselves, but it will be for Him. We love Him because He first loved us. So to keep the commandments of God we must first love God, and it is through Christ that we can love God.

Jesus carries this one step further in John 13: "A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another, AS I HAVE LOVED YOU, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." The emphasis here is on the phrase AS I HAVE LOVED YOU. Without the love of Christ it is not only impossible to keep the commandments of God, it is also impossible to love one another.

Any rules that a church makes have to come from the Word of God. It is my belief that church polity should be written in such a way that it never needs to be changed, because God's Word never changes. There will be times when clarification will be needed, as was done in Acts, chapter 15. We must note from that portion of scripture that God's Word was not changed.

When I was young I rebelled against authority of all kinds. When I made my peace with God I welcomed the authority of God. I even looked at my parents and civil government in a different light because I had a change in relationship with the One who dispenses all power and all authority.

O for a thousand tongues to sing  
My great Redeemer's praise;  
The glories of my God and King,  
The triumphs of His Grace.

Brother Lynn H. Miller  
RD 2 Box 561  
Newmanstown, PA 17073

**SIXTY YEARS AGO**

November 15, 1935

**"MEEKNESS"**

B. F. Masterson

I am corresponding with a veteran of the cross, who has passed his ninety-first milestone, of no mean ability. He has been active in the ministry, and I heard him preach fifty years ago. He was moderator at an Annual Meeting held in Tennessee. He is a reader of the "Bible Monitor." He suggested in one of his letters that I write an article on the above subject.

That put me to thinking. Why should he want to read an article on the subject of "Meekness?" It occurred to me, he having passed through all the stages of life in the services of his Master, his experience has taught him the value of meekness predominant in one's personality, especially does it stand out in the life of the aged Christian, who is meekly waiting for his Master's call; who has learned this beautiful trait of character in the school of experience.

Jesus has priced it very highly, when He said, "Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth." I do not think that He meant the earth in its present sinful condition, rather after it has passed through the fire of purification which will out do the old earth in valuation.

If meekness is so valuable a possession in one's personality, we should know the full meaning of the word, for we all would like to be heirs of the new earth, which is free from all sin and its consequences.

Webster defines the word "meek" as mild of temper, not easily provoked, patient under injuries, not vain or haughty.

The synonyms are gentle, mild, yielding, unassuming, humble. That looks just like the nature of Jesus, does it not? He says, "Follow Me." "I am meek and lowly of heart." "I am the way."

Peter says meekness is an ornament and is of great price in the sight of God. If meekness is so highly esteemed in the sight of God, surely it seems, that each professed Christian would want it.

Have you noticed the setting of Peter's language? In I Peter 3, he is teaching by contrast, which is the best method of teaching. He presents first the negative side and then the positive. Let us read it altogether, the third and fourth verses: "Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel." This we are not to do. Now let us read the positive—what a contrast! "But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price."

Now what is the correct conclusion? The first is worthless in the sight of God, and corruptible; the second is just the opposite of great



price, incorruptible and a real ornament.

It is remarkable how that many church members were plain until the bars of church discipline were lowered, then they put on worldly apparel of loud colors, the body arrayed with gold and even some diamonds. It seems they feared the rules of the church more than God's word, "There must be also heresies among you, that they which are approved may be made manifest." (I Cor. 11:19.)

A meek and quiet spirit is of a divine nature and is peculiar to the one who is born of the spirit, "according as His divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and Godliness through the knowledge of Him who hath called us to glory and virtue, whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust." (II Peter 1:3-4.)

Surely the reward of a meek and quiet spirit is included in the exceeding great and precious promises.

The (new) earth for an inheritance and there is no telling what more God has in store for the meek, where He set such a high estimate on a meek and quiet spirit.

"Now the man Moses was very meek, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth." (Numbers 12:3.) Was that the reason that the Lord favored him above every other prophet, in that He spoke to him mouth to mouth, whereas He made himself known to other prophets in visions and dreams? Since meekness was an outstanding trait in his makeup which no doubt made him such an efficient leader of God's people, would it not be an excellent trait in the personality of a preacher who is supposed to lead God's people? And if the members who are supposed to follow the example of their leader would be meek, would that not be a church without spot or wrinkle? No display of gold ornaments, no loud colors in garments, no movies, no church entertainments, no dances, no card games, no dancing, nor any other corruptible nonsense.

O brethren, above every thing by the grace of God, let us be meek.

### **WHERE DID GOD COME FROM?**

Before there was light,  
Before there was night,  
Where did God come from?  
Before there was day,  
Before the sun shed a ray,  
Where did God come from?  
Before it was dark  
Before He made the lark,

Where did God come from?  
Before He made the earth,  
Before your own birth,  
Where did God come from?  
Before the earth had form,  
Before the first thunderstorm,  
Where did God come from?  
Before God made the fish,  
Before you had cast a wish,  
Where did God come from?  
Before God made the tall grass,  
Before you looked through a magnifying glass,  
Where did God come from?  
Before God made the stars,  
Before man drove cars,  
Where did God come from?  
Maybe it will never be known,  
Maybe we will never be shown,  
Just where God did come from!

Brother Randy J. Reed

## OBITUARIES

### EMERY WERTZ

Brother Emery David Wertz, born August 10, 1904, at Friend, Kansas, the third child and first son of Joseph Lee and Rhonda May (Finkenbinder) Wertz, went home to be with his Savior in the early morning hours of July 16, 1995 at the age of 90 years, 11 months, and 6 days.

Emery moved to the Lubers, Colorado area at the age of 14 in 1919. He has lived within a couple of miles of the home place all his earthly life and at the present home since 1944.

Emery married Vera Spannaus on November 1, 1930. To them was born a daughter, Dorothy May. Vera preceded him in death in 1934.

He married Aurelia Juanita (Root) Smith, on April 1, 1939, and became a father to two sons, Warren and Orvis Smith. To Emery and Aurelia were born Juanita June and August Lee.

Emery joined the Church of the Brethren at an early age. Emery and Vera were baptized according to the Lord's command and became members of the Cloverleaf Congregation of the Dunkard Brethren Church, at McClave, Colorado. He became a Deacon in 1944 and served in that capacity until 1955 when he became a Minister. He was ordained an Elder in 1965 and served until his

death. Emery was preceded in death by his parents, two sisters, Ethel and Rosella, and one grandson, Roland Foster Smith.

He is survived and lovingly remembered by his wife, Aurelia of McClave, by three sons, Warren Smith and wife Luella, Orvis Smith and wife Helen, and Lee Wertz and wife Diane, all of the McClave Congregation; two daughters, Dorothy Wiens and husband Don of Denver and Juanita Reed and husband Oty of McClave; by a brother, Richard Wertz of McClave; by two sisters, Etta Lefholz of McClave and Minnie Haldeman of Dallas Center, Iowa; by fourteen grandchildren, twenty-two great grandchildren and six great-great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at 10:00 A.M., Wednesday, July 19 at the Dunkard Brethren Church of McClave with Elder Herman Jamison and Elder Dale Jamison officiating. Burial was in the McClave Cemetery.

### SUSANNA B. JOHNS

Sister Susanna B. Johns, 95, formerly of Lititz, Pennsylvania, died Sunday, June 11, 1995, after a four month illness at the Mount Hope Dunkard Brethren Church Home near Manheim, Pennsylvania, where she had lived since 1986.

She was a charter and faithful member of the Lititz Dunkard Brethren Church. She retired after forty years with the Bedform Shoe Company of Lititz.

She was born September 4, 1899, in Ephrata, Pennsylvania, the daughter of the late Christian M. and Anna Bess Johns.

Surviving are a sister, Sarah B. Buffenmyer of Ephrata, Pennsylvania and three brothers, Christian B. of Manheim, Pennsylvania, Francis B. of Leola, Pennsylvania and Walter B. of Akron, Pennsylvania.

Funeral services were conducted at 2:00 P.M. June 16, 1995, at the Lititz Dunkard Brethren Church with Elder Rudy Shaffer and Minister James Eberly officiating. Burial was in the Bareville Cemetery, Leola, Pennsylvania.

We want to thank everyone for the prayers, visits and cards she always enjoyed while at the Church Home.

The family

### SHANE LOGAN STAMY

Shane Logan Stamy, infant son of Merle D. and Arlene (Wagoner) Stamy, was stillborn, September 2, 1995, at their home in Montrose, Colorado.

Missing him are his parents; four sisters, Shanna, Michelle, Monica, and Alysha; grandparents, Hubert and Naomi Stamy and



Calvin and Lois Wagoner; great-grandpa, Raymond Kessler; aunts, uncles and eighteen cousins.

Preceding him to his heavenly home was his big brother, Logan, who died at the age of twelve days in 1991; great grandparents James and Elizabeth Wagoner, Jesse and Pearl Wolf, Daniel and Lena Stamy, and Minnie Kessler.

On September 6 visitation services were held at the Crippin Funeral Home in Montrose, Colorado, with Pastor Arlin Geigley from Sunnyview Mennonite Fellowship giving a short message from Isaiah 55. On September 8 visitation services were held in Pratt, Kansas, at Larrison Mortuary, with Brother Wayne Burgess from McClave, Colorado, speaking on Psalm 6. A short family service was held at the graveside in Pleasant View Cemetery at the Sand Creek Old German Baptist meetinghouse on September 9. Songs used were "Blest Be the Tie", "My Jesus, I Love Thee", "Jesus Loves Me", and "I Need No Mansion Here Below", (which was sung at Logan's funeral).

#### YOUR LITTLE ONE

You planned so joyously for his arrival.

You tho't that you would clasp him to your breast,  
And watch him grow, and help him learn life's lessons—  
But God knows best.

He planned for his arrival Over Yonder  
On Heaven's shore. The gate was open wide.  
God welcomed him, and now your baby's waiting  
Safe, safe inside.

You'll put away the bottles and the diapers—  
All you made ready for your baby dear.  
He'll never need them up in Heaven's meadows.  
He's in God's care.

Your hearts are crying cause your baby left you.  
You wanted - oh, so much! - for him to stay.  
But he will never know a tear or heartache  
In God's glad day.

So wipe away your tears, Mommy and Daddy.  
If you will always serve God faithfully  
Some golden morn, you'll meet your little angels  
And live together  
-On and on

-Thro' all eternity.

Though we do not understand God's reasons, we know His ways

are perfect. "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts." Isaiah 55:8-9. We never got to know Shane here on earth, but in heaven we will "know even as we are known". We look forward to meeting our two little sons over there.

Brother Merle and Sister Arlene Stamy

## NEWS ITEMS

### ENGLEWOOD, OHIO

We, the Englewood Congregation, have changed our Sunday evening service time from 7:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M..

Glory to God for the working of His spirit in bringing Bro. Glen Markley by the right hand of fellowship and Bro. Stevie Boone by baptism into our midst.

Sister Ruth Speicher, Cor.

### "TRUMPETS SOUNDED IN HEAVEN"

Our Dad's love affair with nature and animals dates back years. Colorful sunsets charmed the "Rabbit-Ear" Mesa in the western horizon of the SUMMER CAMP. It holds power over everything else except God!

The allure of tranquillity, Torreon in a silent stage offers striking images of a sacred place in a multitude of colors and forms.

We miss you, Dad!

On behalf of my Mom, Veta, my brothers and sisters, we are so thankful for all the cards of sympathy that you all sent. It meant so much to all of us at a time when we lost Dad, Hugh Trijillo.

Thanks, with all our love. May the Lord richly bless each and everyone of you.

Brother Eugene E. Trujillo and Trujillo Family  
Torreon, New Mexico

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## **ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR DECEMBER 1995**

December 3 - Offerings - Exodus 35:1-35.

1. Who was to bring an offering unto the Lord?
2. Who was going to make the items for the tabernacle?

December 10 - Building the tabernacle - Exodus 36:1-38.

1. How much was received in the offering for the tabernacle?
2. How will the wise hearted work today in God's kingdom?

December 17 - Building the Ark, Altar - Exodus 37:1-29; 38:1-31.

1. What was the significance of the seven lamps on the candlestick?
2. Explain the symbolism in the gold, silver, and brass as each was used for the Tabernacle.

December 24 - The Birth of Christ - Luke 2:1-10.

1. Why were the shepherds the first to learn of Christ's birth?
2. Explain the sign, wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

December 31 - The Glory of the Lord - Exodus 39:1-43; 40:1-38.

1. What are the colors blue, purple and scarlet symbolic of, as they were present in the tabernacle worship?
2. How must we prepare the tabernacle of our body for God to dwell therein?

## **YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR DECEMBER 1995**

December 3 - Our Center of Life - John 4:21-26, Acts 19:22-31, 24:14-16, II Cor. 3:17-18.

1. Where should we worship God?
2. How should we worship God?

December 10 - Relationship with God - Romans 8:1-39.

1. After what are we to walk?
2. To whose image should we be conformed?

December 17 - Second Coming of Christ - Matt. 24:29-30, I Thess. 4:14-18, 5:1-6.

1. Compare Christ's first and second comings.
2. How should we await Christ's second coming?

December 24 - Christmas Story - Matt. 1:18-25, 2:1-11, Luke 2:8-16.

1. Why was His name Jesus?
2. Compare the wisdom and actions of Herod with those of the wise men.

December 31 - Diligence - II Peter 1:3-15.

1. Contrast diligence and negligence in the Christian walk.
2. How can remembering help keep us diligent?



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# BIBLE MONITOR

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## WE ARE LIVING

We are living, we are dwelling  
In a grand and awful time—  
In an age on ages telling:  
To be living is sublime.

Hark! the onset! will ye fold your  
Faith-clad arms in lazy lock?  
Up! O, up! thou drowsy soldier;  
Worlds are charging to the shock.

Worlds are charging, heav'n beholding;  
Thou hast but an hour to fight;  
Now, the blazon'd cross unfolding.  
On! right onward for the right.

On! let all the soul within you  
For the truth's sake go abroad:  
Strike! let ev'ry nerve and sinew  
Tell on ages—tell for God.

-A. C. Coxé

## LAZARUS, NICODEMUS AND ZACCHEUS

Jesus dealt with many men, women and children during His earthly ministry. Each had the opportunity to profit by their contact with Him. Some did and some did not. Three men who did profit by being with Jesus were Lazarus, Nicodemus and Zaccheus. Their social positions varied.

Lazarus had not left his boyhood home. He lived with his father and two sisters. Their home at Bethany had become a stopping place for Jesus whenever He came to Jerusalem. He liked being in this home where the daughters served and listened to Him. A bond of love had developed between Jesus and Lazarus. Lazarus was neither a leader nor an outcast.

Nicodemus was a religious leader. He was a member of the honored and powerful Sanhedren. This group of seventy was the ruling body of the Jews. They exercised not only religious leadership, but also some political leadership among the people. The members of this select group were looked up to and listened to. Nicodemus came to Jesus under the cover of darkness. As a leader of the Jews he did not want to be seen with Jesus. It bothered him for anyone to know that he wanted to know more about this radical reformer, who was drawing people away from the dead formalism of the religious leaders toward the true worship of God.

Altogether different was Zaccheus. He was a publican. He collected the taxes for the hated Roman conquerors. He was considered a traitor by the Jews. He would have been a minor official in the eyes of the Romans. He would have been distrusted and despised by all people. A publican was allowed to collect whatever he could from the people. He was required to turn in a specified

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amount to the Roman government. The rest he could keep. It was his profit. He was despised for his allegiance to the Romans and for his crafty business practices. He really did not plan to have an encounter with Jesus. He was just curious. He heard Jesus was passing through Jericho, so he was determined to see Him. He had the determination of a short man. He climbed into a sycamore tree. There he had a good view when Jesus walked by. He did not count on Jesus even seeing him. Jesus not only saw him, but called him down from his perch in the tree.

When Nicodemus came to Jesus, he was willing to admit that Jesus was a great teacher, even one sent by God. Jesus was not interested in the praise of Nicodemus. He knew the heart of Nicodemus. Although he was a leader of the Jews he was not right with God. Jesus very quickly went to the need of Nicodemus' heart. He, by illustration, pointed out that Nicodemus needed a new birth. It did not matter what exalted position Nicodemus held, his greatest need was to have a salvation experience and to become a part of God's family.

Zaccheus, the despised publican, definitely was an outsider. All would agree that his life was not pleasing to God. Yet, Jesus called him down from the tree so He could go to his house. This kind request of a home meal and lodging struck Zaccheus in a tender place in his heart. He immediately realized his Spiritual need. The opening of his heart wrought a tremendous change in his life. He not only wanted to do right but to make right his past offenses.

The family of Lazarus was touched by sorrow when he died. Word was sent to Jesus. He came with His disciples to visit the family in their grief. He came not merely to comfort but to restore Lazarus to his family. He gave them a lesson concerning resurrection. As He called Lazarus forth from the burial cave, He gave a preview of His own resurrection. His own resurrection gave a preview of the resurrection of all believers. He showed that He was the master of death, hell and the grave. This was the ultimate gift from God.

Like Nicodemus, many good people, even religious people, are outside the fold of safety. They may trust in their good works, their positions, or their reputations. Those things are not sufficient. A saving relationship with God through Jesus Christ is the one needful thing.

Others' lifestyles mark them as obvious sinners, like Zaccheus. They are looked down upon by most in polite society. Just as Jesus could perceive the good in Zaccheus, He can still see the good in the despised of today. They, like Zaccheus, need to prepare a home for Him in their hearts.

Lazarus as a symbol of the resurrection gives hope to all



believers. There is a better life beyond this one. Although there may be sorrows and temporary separations, there is a hope for a new and better life in this world and in Heaven.

Can you identify with one of these men? They profited from their encounters with Jesus. Have you?

M.C.Cook

## AFRICA

Mark 10:47-52, "And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out, and say, Jesus, thou son of David, have mercy on me. And many charged him that he should hold his peace: but he cried the more a great deal, Thou son of David, have mercy on me. And Jesus stood still, and commanded him to be called. And they call the blind man, saying unto him, Be of good comfort, rise; he calleth thee. And he, casting away his garment, rose, and came to Jesus. And Jesus answered and said unto him, What wilt thou that I should do unto thee? The blind man said unto him, Lord, that I might receive my sight. And Jesus said unto him, Go thy way; thy faith hath made thee whole. And immediately he received his sight, and followed Jesus in the way."

In the same manner God desired deeply that all mankind receive abundant life. He offered His Son Jesus Christ. Jesus declared the purpose of His manifestation when He said, "I have come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." (John 10:10.) Surely He redeemed mankind when He gave His life for us, an event that availed eternal life to all who believed. He returned us to the Shepherd and the Guardian of our souls.

The life transforming work of God started to bear fruit in Africa about six months ago, through the Dunkard Brethren Mission of Kampala, Uganda. This shall continue till most parts of the continent are lit by the light. Abundant life is now a reality to some. It will be, as well, to many Africans, owing to the devoted labors of the Dunkard Brethren Church with Paul and Mary Stump and Dale and Doris Jamison, who came to Africa to reach out for the gospel of Christ. They toiled with untiring zeal. At the peril of their own lives, they proclaimed the good news.

We now bear in our hands a glowing torch to carry this glad message to the many unreached souls, who are dying daily and passing into the night. They are blind, spiritually, physically and intellectually limited. They have been waiting for a long time in darkness for someone to go and take the light to them. Many have

sought to know the Saviour in their blindness. Such as the African traditional religion, the spiritism religion, witchcraft and the oriental religions e.g: Buddhism, Hinduism. Others have decided to live without any religion, but full of superstition. They are ready to be taken up by anything.

Why should their cry be in vain? The Dunkard Brethren Mission has an answer and a solution for the people of Africa. It is according to God's plan that the Dunkard Brethren Church has entered into Africa by establishing a mission in Uganda, Kampala City. We shall make it. We need prayers, encouragement and your presence in the Dunkard Brethren Mission. This is our privilege to work and serve the Lord in Africa. Christ is the hope and the answer for the African cry.

#### YOUR INVOLVEMENT:

Wherever you are, you can pray, a key role to avail abundant life to many unreached people. You can help the work of the Dunkard Brethren Mission in Africa by direct involvement and financial support and prayers.

For additional information fax or write to Godfrey and Gorret Kiiza. Visitors welcome.

Brother Godfrey Kiiza  
Dunkard Brethren Mission  
P.O. Box 21188  
Kampala, Uganda

### A PECULIAR PEOPLE

"But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light." (1 Peter 2:9)

When reading this verse, it is often tempting to hang our identity on our own notion of what it means to be "peculiar." Our experience, and the experience of other like minded people, reinforce the assumption, that as plain people, we are just a bit "peculiar." From this point of departure we take off on the things that make us "peculiar," such as the covering worn by the sisters or the cut of the coat worn by the brethren.

I enjoy wearing my Dunkard beard for it identifies me with a heritage that I truly love. But, if looking different, even if there are scriptural reasons for our attire and physical appearance, is the meaning of "peculiar," then we are going to have to face the fact that we share the spotlight with a whole host of other people whose peculiarity has nothing to do with Jesus Christ. The mere mention of

those whose hair has been dyed green or orange, or long slender locks of hair growing from some point on the head while the rest of the scalp is close cut, or baggy pants that seem to all but fall off the hips, will suffice to show that a wide variety of other garb that is certainly "peculiar" is seen in our culture these days.

A closer examination of the word "peculiar" is needed if we are to understand correctly what the Apostle Peter was really saying. The definition of the Greek word used here can be rendered several different ways. Along with "peculiar" it also has the meaning of being "purchased," or being a "possession." A look at a multiple translation of the Bible renders such phrases as: "God's own people," "a people belonging to God," "God's very own," and "a people claimed by God for His own." What makes us "peculiar" is who owns us.

While in college in the early '70s, some friends and I decided to spend a day at the ocean. While there I went for a long stroll down the beach. As I came around a slight bend I saw a large mansion, surrounded by fence that stretched clear down past the water's edge. On closer inspection I discovered that this was President Nixon's personal residence and Western White House at the time. Though I had lost respect for the man because of the Vietnam War and the beginnings of the Watergate investigations, I was none-the-less amazed to find myself standing next to the President's house. What made this residence so important was not its location or appearance but who owned it.

"For ye are bought with a price..." (I Cor. 6:20) Paul informs us. Just a few verses earlier in Peter's epistle, Peter tells us that "...ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold,...But with the precious blood of Christ..." (I Peter 1:18-19) What makes us, as believers, important, and therefore, "peculiar," is that we are owned by God, who has gone to such extraordinary lengths to purchase us. Our response to being a "peculiar" possession of the Lord Jesus Christ is to sing forth His praises in word and deed, glorifying God in our body and our spirit, giving testimony with our lips and our lives, even including the ways we adorn our bodies, because God, "hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light."

Brother Phil Franklin

### **KEEP PRAYING FOR RAIN**

James 5:16-20, "Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain; and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months. And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the



earth brought forth her fruit. Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him; Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins."

Zechariah 10:1-2, "Ask ye of the LORD rain in the time of the latter rain, so the LORD shall make bright clouds, and give them showers of rain, to every one grass in the field. For the idols have spoken vanity, and the diviners have seen a lie, and have told false dreams; they comfort in vain therefore they went their way as a flock, they were troubled, because there was no shepherd."

"Keep praying for rain," were the words spoken to me by the cashier after the business transaction was completed. She had no way of knowing if I was a man of prayer or not, but my plain appearance led her to believe this was so.

We find that Elijah prayed that it might not rain. He recognized that there may be times that we have to suffer along with those who do evil in order for God's authority to be exhibited. We are not sure when, or even if, this would be appropriate for a Christian. But we must recognize that God is sovereign and that He may not always answer our prayers the way we would like them to be answered to fulfill His will for us and all mankind.

But we also find that Elijah prayed again and God did send rain. When we pray for something, we should pray in faith believing and expecting an answer. But, we would again caution that our prayers must be in the spirit of "Thy will be done."

There is much emphasis on praying for healing and miracles in our day. We believe that God can heal and that the day of miracles is not past. However, there is an altogether lack of emphasis on spiritual healing in our day.

James recognized the danger of physical healing leading to acceptance of error in the Church. This is why after giving the Church the formula for the anointing service, which we believe is God's method of healing in a church setting, although He will also honour a prayer from the heart. He warned BRETHREN of the possibility of erring from the truth. We are to let such a brother know "that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death." This does not sound like unconditional eternal security to us!

Zechariah tells us to "Ask ye of the LORD rain in the time of the latter rain." We believe we are now in the time of the latter rain. The time when God has poured the Holy Spirit upon His people and now lives within us. "So the LORD shall make bright clouds." The brightness of His Holy Word illuminates our path if we take time to study it and allow the Holy Spirit to reveal the truths therein. "...and give them showers of rain." His Holy word will bring blessings into our

lives if we are obedient to its teachings. "...to every one grass in the field." There will come a day when our trials and sorrows are past. When all will be perfect each and every day of our life when we dwell with Him on Heaven's shore.

But in the meantime we must deal with false teachers and religions. "For the idols have spoken vanity." We know that idols can not speak literally. But worship of a false god can bring a false peace to an individual. "Diviners have seen a lie, and have told false dreams." We are told today that we can have unity in diversity. Even the truth that Scripture binds us together in Christ and those things not found in Scripture should not separate us is being misused. We are reluctant to name sin and worldly attractions that are displeasing to God in the modern church.

**KEEP PRAYING FOR RAIN.** If you have a physical need do not hesitate to ask God for healing. If you have a need for a miracle God is still in the miracle working business. But most of all pray for the spiritual rain so badly needed in the earthly church today.

Brother James M. Hite  
816 E. Birch St.  
Palmyra, PA 17078-2704

## **AVOIDING TEMPTATION**

One time a certain man wanted to hire a driver. Three men applied for the position. The man took the applicants down to the dangerous place in the road. Thereon was a cliff with a hundred-foot drop. "How close can each of you get to the edge without going over?" The first one said, "I can drive to within one foot of the edge." The second one said, "I can drive to within six inches." The last man exclaimed, "Sir, I will stay as far from the precipice as I can get." "And you are the man for the job," stated the wise employer.

A little boy was recovering from a serious illness which necessitated him eating different foods from the others in the family. Normal food was dangerous for him. One day his sister came into his room eating a gooey piece of cake. "Ruth," he said to his sister, "You must run right out of this room now and I will shut my eyes so I won't want that cake." It is important to avoid temptation.

Avoid temptation, young Christian, as you would a deadly serpent. Avoid associations that will lead you away from Christ. Avoid the frivolous, giddy company that seeks only a laugh and fun, for to mingle with such is a detriment to the soul. Avoid the worldly, irreligious person whose whole attention is on the present, evil world, who scoffs at religion and makes fun of Christians: whose primary goal is living for self instead of for God. Avoid lovers of pleasure. They will lead you into questionable amusements and doubtful



associations. Avoid the wicked, sensual man or woman. Avoid places of worldly amusement: the movies, the dance halls, the theaters, the card games.

It is not meant by this that there are no enjoyments for young Christians. There are plenty of them: innocent enjoyments, games that inform and encourage, that strengthen the eye and the arm and paint the cheek with color that is not artificial. To be a Christian means to give up the evil. The good, wholesome things can be retained.

It also does not mean that the Christian cannot associate with the non-Christian. The young Christian should be friendly to all people. What the young Christian should avoid are associations and the company of sinful and unwholesome characters that would adversely influence. Many of your friends will still want to be your friends, and this friendship should be used to bring them to Christ. You can explain in a kindly way why you cannot go to places that you feel Christ would not have you go. Thank them and tell them that you must walk with Jesus.

Sit down quietly, young Christian, and think over the momentous decision you have made in following Christ. Are not the most tremendous possibilities bound up in that acceptance? You have begun your journey to Heaven. Do not look back. Do not stumble over Satan's wiles. The temptations of this world do not compare with those blessings found in a satisfied and God-blessed walk with Him.

Brother Lynn H. Miller  
RD 2 Box 561  
Newmanstown, PA 17073

## **THE NEED FOR CONTEMPLATION IN OUR SPIRITUAL LIVES**

Most people find it difficult to stare into the heavens on a clear night for any extended period of time. As we stare into the night sky we are awed by the magnitude of the universe, and are to a degree disoriented, because we are at a loss to comprehend the infinity that is before us. We are uneasy, and turn away to the world we better understand, perhaps making some obvious remark about how chilly the night air feels.

Likewise we are uncomfortable with a magnificent view. We can stand on the edge of the Grand Canyon, an hour before sunset. We turn away because we are unable to take it all in. We find ourselves unable to assimilate what we see and would be unable to express our feeling if we were to linger there. In contrast the



Japanese, a century ago, enjoyed a contemplative tradition, and were able to spend hours in a garden or in a beautiful place absorbing the scene, watching the beautiful changes of the colors and the slow moving shadows at the close of day. Their attention, and quietude, gave them an expanded capacity to assimilate, and delight in the wonders of nature. How much richer and deeper is the experience of the contemplative!

And so it is with God. Although God is beyond our comprehension, prayerful contemplation brings us enormously closer. We become open to further enlightenment, not through our own capabilities, but through God's power. Here we experience communion, not symbolically, but by a deep sense of knowing and sharing.

Modern urban life, unfortunately carries us in the other direction. We are continually distracted by multiple events taking place at the same time, interruptions, a cacophony of background noise. We experience a sense of urgency about both work and recreation. This environment makes us less capable of reflection. Learning becomes an accumulation of facts, rather than the process of gaining wisdom.

In this fast moving world our spiritual lives are often among the victims. We habitually begin to expect simplified, three and four word, answers to weighty questions. We lose our ability to think things through. We are impatient, and want quick, easy answers. We seek the instant gratification of our desires. We become thoughtless of our own welfare, we become thoughtless of others, and worst of all we become thoughtless of God!

It is imperative that we all recognize the needs of people who are falling victim to the serious problems of modern life. There is an urgent need for people to be provided the means to center their lives; the capacity to be thoughtful, without anxiety. If formal meetings of prayer and meditation were common place, people would respond. There is a great need to have a time and place to reaffirm baptismal vows, to make the intimate acquaintance of the Holy Spirit; recognizing the guidance, and spiritual power, that God will contribute to our lives if we open ourselves to Him. These things are not best left to chance, in hopes that the individual will seek some thoughtful quiet time with the Lord. To know God, we need the insights of one another. We need a forum where we can ask questions, and share our thoughts with one another. But, most of all we all need a quiet time, when we can listen to God, learn to open our hearts to Him and to each other. This is contemplative worship, which can take place any time, anywhere.

Allen Smith

### THE POTTER'S HOUSE

To the Potter's house I went down one day,  
And watched Him while molding the vessels of clay.  
And many a wonderful lesson I drew  
As I noticed the process the clay went through.

Trampled and broken, down trodden and rolled,  
To render more plastic and fit for the mold.  
How, like the clay that is human, I thought,  
When in Heavenly hands to perfection is brought.

For self must be cast as the dust at His feet,  
Before it is ready for service made meet.  
Pride must be broken and self will be lost—  
All laid on the altar, whatever the cost.

And lo! by and by a delicate vase  
Of wonderful beauty and exquisite grace.  
Was it once the vile clay? Ah yes, and yet how strange,  
The Potter had wrought a wonderful change.

Not a trace of the earth or the mark of a clay,  
The fires of the furnace have burned them away.  
Wondrous skill of the Potter—the praise is His due,  
In whose hands to perfection it grew.

Thus with souls living still content in His hand,  
That do not the power of working withstand.  
They are molded and fitted a treasure to hold,  
Vile clay transformed into purest gold.  
Author unknown  
Selected by the late Brother Paul R. Myers

### SIXTY YEARS AGO

December 1, 1935  
ACCEPTABLE SACRIFICES  
L. W. Beery

In the day in which we live there is much religious activity on every hand and a wide variety of enterprises are undertaken and advanced in the name and under the cloak of religion. During the Thanksgiving season and upon other special occasions many

programs, pageants, entertainments and other special services which require much time, talent and expense are arranged and presented before the public as religious services. It is claimed by those who foster such enterprises that time, talent, energies and finances spent in these ways are sacrifices and offerings to God. This may seem plausible as men reason, but are such services acceptable sacrifices with God?

If those who advocate such services in the sanctuary would give us scriptural authority for such practices then we would not question them, but this they cannot do; in fact the New Testament teaches to the contrary. Jesus said, "My house shall be called the house of prayer." In view of the many teachings in the Gospel on matters along this line a thoughtful person naturally wonders under the circumstances and conditions existing just how much that is being carried on under the name of religion is acceptable in the sight of God.

Those who advocate these modern innovations contend that even though they lack scriptural authority, inasmuch as the services are dedicated to the Lord they are justifiable. This reminds us of what happened with the Israelite nation under the leadership of Saul.

In I Samuel 15 it is recorded that Saul and his people were commanded to utterly destroy the Amalekites and their property. Instead of complying fully with what the Lord had commanded, they spared the best of the sheep and of the oxen to sacrifice unto the Lord. According to their own way of reasoning they were justified in so doing but in this they were sadly mistaken as is evidenced in the following passage from the foregoing chapter. "And Samuel said, hath the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the Lord, He hath also rejected thee from being king."

According to this, when Saul did not comply fully with the commandment of the Lord it indicated "rebellion and stubbornness" and he had to suffer for it. It will also be noticed that rebellion and stubbornness are classed the same as witchcraft, iniquity and idolatry.

There is an application which we wish to make here that we feel is appropriate. It is evident that these modern innovations in religious life and service are matters that appeal to the carnal nature; they satisfy the "lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life." As such they fall under the condemnation of the scriptures. As proof of this we offer the following passages. "That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man which is corrupt



according to the deceitful lusts." (Eph. 4:22.) "Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin." (Rom. 6:6.) "Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul." (I Pet. 2:11.) "For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world." (I John 2:16.)

We notice from these and other like references in the gospel that the "commandment of the Lord" is to utterly destroy the carnal nature, "but put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfill the lusts thereof." (Rom. 12:14.)

Instead of complying fully with the commandment of the Lord, modern so-called Christendom has, like Saul and the Israelites, spared the "best of the flocks" as the offering to God. This indicates, like with Saul "stubbornness and rebellion" which, if persisted in shall surely mean rejection. In view of the warnings in the scriptures we are not only justified in questioning these modern innovations, but in exposing their true classification and the danger of coming under the condemnation of the Lord by partaking of such.

## OUR MANSIONS FAR BEYOND

As He guides us  
Through this life  
We're guided upward  
Towards that light  
To those mansions  
Far beyond  
Where we shall be  
Eternally.  
Through this life  
He guides us on  
To those mansions  
Far beyond.

Now we're headed  
Towards the shore,  
Where there's no tears  
Forever more.  
All is peace  
And happiness  
Joy and love  
And thankfulness.  
Through this life  
He guides us on

To those mansions  
Far beyond.

We have safely  
Reached the shore  
And see our loved ones  
Once more.  
Now we'll live  
Eternally  
We our Saviour's  
Face will see.  
Through this life  
He has led us on  
To our mansions  
Far beyond.

Brother Randall J. Reed

## OBITUARY

### EMMA STAUFFER

Sis. Emma (Wanner) Stauffer of 241 Kurtz Road, Ephrata, Pennsylvania, passed away from this life September 9, 1995. She was 87 years 5 months and 5 days.

She was born April 4, 1908, to Abram and Mary Ann Wanner.

December 22, 1928, she was married to Abram Stauffer. He was killed in an accident on March 19, 1937. One daughter, Anna Keller also preceded her in death on July 30, 1993.

She was a member of the Lititz Dunkard Brethren Church. Surviving are four children; Mary Rauser and Martha Eberly, both of Ephrata, Pennsylvania, Abram Stauffer of Reinholds, Pennsylvania and Edwin Stauffer of Newmanstown, Pennsylvania, twenty-four grandchildren, eighty great-grandchildren and six great-great-grandchildren.

Services were held September 12 at the Lititz Dunkard Brethren Church with Elder Rudy Shaffer and Bro. Jim Eberly. Interment was in Mohler's Church of the Brethren Cemetery.

The family wants to thank all the church family and friends for the many acts of kindness and words of comfort shown during Mother's illness and for the cards and love shown to us during our bereavement at her passing.

May God's blessing be yours, is our prayer.

The family

### A TRIBUTE TO MY GRANDMA

I do not know who gave it to her or where it came from but

above my Grandma's kitchen table on the wall was a little plaque that read "When life hands you scraps, make a quilt." That perfectly described my Grandma.

As a young woman she married a widower with two little boys. They enjoyed the addition of three daughters to their family only to be so soon followed by tragedy. Grandpa was killed at work when the bed of a truck came down, crushing him. As a young widow with five little children to feed, Grandma had to be frugal, ambitious, and careful. She sewed in her home for a store to help provide for her family.

She suffered the deaths of many close family members in recent years and yet, whenever we would visit her she would talk of God's goodness and all we have to praise Him for. She still sewed, including making quilts up until recent months. She kept busy and seemed to enjoy life as she nurtured plants, kept sewing and attending church.

Last week we laid the dear little woman with white hair and stooped shoulders to rest. The Lord had beckoned her to come and she went, quietly and peacefully. She made many, many quilts in her lifetime but none are so beautiful to me as the one she made out of the "scraps" life handed her. May her legacy be passed on.

By a grandchild of Emma Stauffer

## **NEWS ITEM**

### **DAYTON, VIRGINIA**

We the Dunkard Brethren Church of Dayton, Virginia wish to thank Bro. Harley and Sis. Marjorie Flory for coming and holding Revival Services, October 18 to 23.

We highly recommend that any church accept Bro. Harley for evangelist. He brought spiritual messages to us. May the Lord richly bless him and his companion. "And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen." Romans 16:20.

Sister Lizetta Bittinger, Cor.



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Elma Moss  
4254 Richmond Palestin  
New Madison OH 45346

(USPS 054-780)

# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXXIII

DECEMBER 15, 1995

NO. 24

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## LOVE

If suddenly upon the street  
My gracious Saviour I should meet,  
And he should say, "As I love thee,  
What love hast thou to offer me?"  
Then what could this poor heart of mine  
Dare offer to that heart divine?

His eye would pierce my outward show,  
His thought my inmost thought would know;  
And if I said, "I love thee, Lord,"  
He would not heed my spoken word,  
If verily I loved him well.

If on the day or in the place  
Wherein he met me face to face  
My life could show some kindness done,  
Some purpose formed, some work begun,  
For his dear sake, then, it were meet  
Love's gift to lay at Jesus' feet.

-Charles Francis Richardson

## THE GIFT, A GIFT AND GIFTS

The Christmas season is a time of gift giving. Christmas is tied to the merchandising done at that time of year. The success or failure of many retailers is related to their sales at this season. So there is much seeking of customers. Children are raised on the idea of the gifts ringing the tree on Christmas morning. Whether the worldly idea of Santa Claus is introduced or not, there is still a great deal of effort, time and money expended on the giving and receiving of gifts.

How has Christmas become so associated with the idea of gifts? Not only is it promoted by merchandisers, but by many from a religious perspective. It is claimed that the giving of gifts is an imitation of God's giving of His Son. There can be no other gift that can even be an imitation of God's Gift. No one can comprehend what His Gift cost Him. His Gift was not given with any ulterior motive. Unlike many who give gifts only to enhance their possibilities of receiving equal or better gifts, God gave His Gift only for the benefit of those who would accept it. A gift has to be accepted. If unaccepted it is an effort wasted upon the intended recipient.

God's Gift was unspeakable. It was beyond the power of speech to convey its full meaning. He gave His Only Begotten Son to be the ransom for the souls of men. By their desperate lives they had cut themselves off from Him, but God was willing to forgive them and to receive them again, plus He provided the needed redemption. He provided the sacrifice needed to turn His anger from those who

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**THE BIBLE MONITOR****DECEMBER 15, 1995**

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deserved it. He could have allowed the guilty suffer their fate, but He provided the means for escaping that fate. Truly, there is no other gift that could match or even imitate His.

The gifts we give should be motivated not by a desire to imitate, but by the same love He has displayed toward us. As His love fills us, we should reflect, not imitate, it to others. One way of reflecting His Gift is to share that Gift with others. The material gifts of this life are enjoyable and often useful, but many are unnecessary and only for show. The one lasting gift is the sharing of God's Ultimate Gift with others. This sharing can be through personal example and word. This is most successful with our immediate family and near friends. Others can be reached through the organized efforts of others. The sharing of our material means can provide them with the means to share the Gospel. Few of us can go to New Mexico to live, work and share the Gospel. Even fewer of us can go to Uganda to live, work and share the Gospel. Although we can not go to these isolated places, there are those there who are sharing the Gospel. By the sharing of our means, we can have a part in the spreading of the Gospel in these places, where we could never go ourselves.

God has sent His Gift, the greatest of all Gifts. He has given that gift that we might receive the gift of redemption. He has also given us many other gifts. These are the talents and abilities He has given to each of us. He has blessed us with these gifts, so we might be prepared to serve Him in all ways possible. These gifts are varied, unlike His great Gift, which is the same for everyone. These gifts, by contrast, are individual. Not only do they differ from person to person, even the amount each person receives is different. Some may have only one talent, while others may have multiple talents. These talents take many, individual shapes. Some people have public talents that are useful in the public worship services of the Church. Others have talents that are more private. While they may participate in the public services, their best work is done in private. They may be prayer warriors or they may give time, money and gifts to others in a quiet way. Others may not have talents that are considered Spiritual, but by use of the talents they do have, they are able to financially support the work of others. It may be difficult to discern the talents that some have, but if they are willing to use that talent for God's purposes, it can be as valuable as any other.

It must be remembered that God gives these talents that His purposes may be fulfilled. He does not give them to be used for self-glory. When these talents are misused for personal advancement, they are being abused.

God has given A gift of eternal life through THE Gift of His Son. Have you accepted it? God has given varied gifts for serving Him and others. Are you using them?

M.C. Cook

### **THEN SHALL COME OUT OF ZION THE DELIVERER**

Romans 11:26-27, "And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Zion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins."

This quotation from the pen of the Apostle Paul can not be found in the Old Testament. There are other "quotations" given in the New Testament that are not word for word repeats from the Old Testament. There are those who say that these writings were considered inspired in the time of Paul and the other Apostles, which are lost to us. Others vehemently disagree with this theory. Another possible explanation is that the difference comes from translating from one language into another. Translating from Hebrew to Greek would be like translating from German to English. A third, and we believe likely, possibility is that Paul paraphrased the teachings in the Old Testament. Whatever the explanation, we can be assured that there are no mistakes or contradictions within the pages of the Holy Scriptures!

There is also another controversy concerning this portion of Scripture. A major part of Christendom teaches that this is a reference to the second coming of Christ. A much smaller portion believes it is referring to His first coming. Which ever position you take, we believe it is unscriptural to say that Israel as a whole body will be saved without repentance and acceptance of the Lord Jesus Christ, as some seem to teach.

Paul starts his thoughts on our selected verses in chapter 10. (Actually Romans chapter one to chapter eleven covers this subject.) "Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved." Then in verses 12 and 13 we read how Israel will be saved. "For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for

the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." Then in verse 23 of chapter eleven (speaking about Israel) Paul writes, "And they also, if they abide not still in unbelief, shall be grafted in: for God is able to graft them in again."

In Matthew 1:21 we read, "And she (Mary) shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins." The nation of Israel was looking for a political Messiah to save them from Roman rule. Like many modern religious figures, they misunderstood the Old Testament teaching of the Deliverer. It is interesting that some political leaders are now saying that politics is not the answer to the wickedness found throughout the world. Those of the true Brethren faith have said this from the start! Much of the earthly church is bogged down with social and civil ISSUES, while the true purpose of the Church, the salvation of souls, is "put on the back burner" or completely ignored.

This Deliverer will "take away ungodliness from Jacob." Study the sins found in the Old Testament and you will find that they are the same sins found in the world today. Men have always had the same problem: a sinful nature that needs to be redeemed. The only way this can be done is through accepting the finished work of Jesus Christ on Calvary where He shed that most precious blood. The babe was born in Bethlehem grew to manhood and became the Deliverer of both Israel and the world.

"For this is my covenant with them, when I shall take away their sins." The New Testament is also the New Covenant. In Hebrews 8:12-13 we read, "For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more. In that he saith, A new covenant, he hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away."

At this time of the year when the world is taken up with Christmas trees and bright lights, let us proclaim that the Deliverer has come. The very sins and iniquities that will be found in homes "celebrating Christmas" are the ones He has come to deliver us from. If you have not already done so, will you not accept this perfect gift today? Then you will recognize that your own personal DELIVERER has come!

Brother James M. Hite  
816 E. Birch St.  
Palmyra, PA 17078-2704



## **GOD'S LOVE FOR MAN'S NEED**

In the dawn of time's beginning,  
God with love and boundless might  
Spake, and worlds came into being,  
All was perfect in His sight.  
Man was made for God's own glory  
Giv'n a heart to love and praise, -  
Wondrous thought, made in His image,  
Made to live though endless days!

Sad the day when Satan entered  
God's blest plan to overthrow;  
Sin brought chaos, hope departed,  
Joy gave place to pain and woe.  
Darkness deep and overwhelming  
Filled with dread man's troubled breast;  
Still he knew no peace or rest.

Hear, oh hear the wondrous story  
Of the gracious Saviour's love,  
How He left His throne of glory,  
Left His Father's home above;  
Heralded by choirs of angels  
On that still Judean night;  
Shepherds heard the tidings glorious  
Sought and found the Lord of Light.

Unto us God's Son is given,  
Saviour, Lord, eternal King;  
Light of life, brought us salvation,  
Unto Him our praises sing.  
Let us worship and adore Him  
Love Him, serve Him all our days;  
Let our lives in glad abandon  
Bring to Him unceasing praise.

-Emily R. Moore

Selected by Brother Galen Litfin

## THE WALK TO THE HOLIEST PLACE

Based on the walk of the High Priest on the Day of Atonement.

Note the awfulness of the presence of the Holy God. Come before him in reverence and Godly fear. Please read Lev. 9:22; 10:1-3; 16:1-2.

The court of the tabernacle was 100 cubits long and 50 cubits wide. The curtains of the court were of fine twined linen. In the east end was a gate that was 20 cubits wide. The hanging of the gate was made of blue and purple and scarlet and fine twined linen, wrought with needle work. Within were the altar, the laver and the tabernacle.

Some could enter into the courtyard, but could go no farther.

The High Priest comes in with a bullock for a sin offering, and a ram for a burnt offering. He lays aside his garments, washes himself with water, and puts on the holy garments. Please read Col. 3:1-17.

He takes of the congregation two goats for a sin offering, and a ram for a burnt offering.

He kills the bullock of the sin offering. He takes a censer full of burning coals of fire from off the altar before the Lord. His hands are full of sweet incense, beaten small.

Bringing it within the veil, he puts the incense upon the fire before the Lord. The cloud of the incense would cover the mercy seat, which is upon the ark of testimony. He does this so he would not die.

He takes of the blood of the bullock, and sprinkles it with his finger upon the mercy seat eastward. He sprinkles of the blood with his finger seven times.

Next he kills the goat of the sin offering, and does with his blood as with the blood of the bullock.

With the blood he makes atonement for himself, his household, and for the people. He makes an atonement for the altar that is before the tabernacle, by putting of the blood upon the horns of the altar and sprinkling of the blood upon the altar seven times, to cleanse it, and to hallow it from the uncleanness of the children of Israel.

He puts both hands upon the head of the live goat. He confesses over him all the iniquities of the children of Israel and all their transgressions in all their sins. He puts them upon the head of the goat. The goat is taken by the hand of a fit man unto a land not inhabited. The goat bearing upon him all their iniquities is let go in the wilderness. This is the scapegoat.

The high priest comes again into the tabernacle and puts off the holy garments, and leaves them there. He again washes himself with water. He puts on his garments, before he offers the burnt offerings, and burns the fat of the sin offering on the altar.

The residue of the sin offerings was carried without the camp. There were burned in the fire, their skins, their flesh, and their dung.

Both the man, who led the scapegoat into the wilderness, and the man, who burned the residue of the sin offering, washed their clothes, and bathed their flesh with water, before coming into the camp.

We come into the courtyard, by hearing the gospel, and reading the Scriptures.

We approach the altar, and find that the blood has already been shed for our cleansing. The atonement has been made. We lay aside the garments of the flesh. Col. 3:5-9; Gal. 5:19-21; Eph. 5:3-8.

Next we have our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience. We also have our bodies washed with pure water. Heb. 10:22 (Baptism), see also Acts 22:16.

We then can put on the holy garments. Col. 3:10-17; Gal. 5:22-26.

We can freely approach the mercy seat, because the veil was rent in twain. Matt. 27:51; Mark 15:38; Heb. 10:19-21. Our prayers go up as incense from the altar that is before the throne. Rev. 8:3-4; 5:8-9.

We become the burnt offering, for we **MUST** lie ourselves upon the altar of sacrifice. Rom. 12:1.

We do not lay off the holy garments, and put on again the garments of the flesh, because we have access to the holiest at all times. We can come boldly unto the throne of Grace, but always with reverence and Godly fear.

While the atonement was made for Israel ever year, our atonement is made for us forever. Please read Rom. 5:1-11

Brother William Carpenter

## **SIXTY YEARS AGO**

December 15, 1935

**DENYING SELF AND FOLLOWING CHRIST**

Bertha Little

"If any man will come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow Me."



"For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for My sake, the same shall save it."

"For what is a man advantaged, if he gain the whole world, and lose himself, or be a cast away?"

"For whosoever shall be ashamed of Me and of My word, of him shall the Son of Man be ashamed, when He shall come in His own glory, and in His Father's, and of the holy angels." (Luke 9:23-26.)

Let us think for a few moments on what it may mean for us to deny ourselves, or what we must do if we would follow Christ. If all professing Christians truly feared God, which we believe can never be a part of our life, unless we read God's holy word often, yes daily. Then we will surely fall at His sovereign feet and plead for mercy and be willing and happy to do all he asks of us.

In Titus 2:2-14 we are told to deny ungodliness and worldly lusts, and to live soberly, righteously and Godly in this present world.

Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God our Saviour Jesus Christ: Who gave himself for us, that He might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto Himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

If we truly love God above all else we will be determined to deny ourselves of all ungodliness and worldly lusts. We cannot adorn the soul when we are giving away to pride, and following the ungodly wicked fashions of the world, especially of this age.

How it saddens the heart to see those who were once a light and inspiration to us, and now in their older years powdering their faces and dressing in open disobedience to the word, then their children and younger ones in looking to them as leaders, instead of looking only to Christ, the word, are using rouge, lip stick, bobbing the hair and having permanent waves, dressing ungodly and think they are followers of the meek and lowly Jesus, because of wearing a prayer veil during services. Then we think of the cunningness and deception of Satan, for no doubt he is taking the time of these poor souls, tempting them to pleasures of the world or the cares of life, and they become barren and unfruitful, not taking time to search God's word and seek His holy, divine will.

Are these dear ones ashamed of Jesus and his word. or are they in ignorance of God's word? Oh, that they had more warning from the pulpits.

We read that even Christ pleased not Himself. In all things He sought the glory of His Father and was obedient unto His will, yea, even the humiliation and death of the cross that He might redeem all who came unto the Father through Him.

He is the "Rose of Sharon." He became the "crushed Rose" for us. If we are to follow Him and partake of His nature, we too must be crushed.

Only the Christian who will deny himself, take up his cross daily and follow the Master, can know this "crushing" experience which it takes to make us like our "Example," even Jesus. But I see no other way to become like Him.

But when the rose is crushed it sends forth its sweetest fragrance. Are we willing for this, just to be like our Lord?

It means to lay aside all that the human heart cries out for. It means to keep in the background and let others to be pushed forward, and for us to rejoice that others can do as well, years many times better than we, no doubt.

It means to let others receive praise when it rightfully belongs to us, and to be silent when tempted to defend ourselves, all of this and more is included in a life of self denial, and a life that will show to others, "Christ living in us."

But if we can do this, we have the help of the blessed Holy Spirit to such an extent that we have the fully surrendered life, the yielded life; and the soul longs to suffer for Christ's sake, because the love is so great, the love of Christ to us, and the love of the redeemed to Christ. What blessed fellowship. Is any price too great to pay for such wonderful, matchless and everlasting love, and such precious fellowship.

Words can never tell how blessed and joyful is the Christian life when Christ is acknowledged in all our ways.

It is not easy to live this life of self-denial, with the warfare we have between the flesh and the spirit, unless we abide in Him continually; then and then only can our life be one with Christ, our precious Savior, that His blessed presence makes every thorn to appear as a rose, and brightens our pathway no matter how dark, and makes every sorrow a blessing.

This lowly Jesus meant just what He said when He gave us these words, "If any man will come after Me, let Him deny himself and take

up his cross daily, and follow Me." Can we do less when we realize that he suffered, bled and died for us. But He lives forevermore, and as our faithful High Priest is now interceding for us.

Oh, that each professed follower of the Lord would come to know the great joy that is the portion of the "abiding Christian." Oh, beloved let us not be ashamed of Jesus and His word—oh, the awful condemnation that awaits us if we are! "Of him shall the Son of Man be ashamed, when he shall come in His own glory and His Father's and of the holy angels."

God's holy word is regarded far too lightly, by His professed followers, in these cold, lukewarm days. Oh, let us pray for God to revive them and arouse them to know what it means to be an humble follower of the meek and lowly Jesus, and that they may cling to God's word which is to be our judge in that awful day, when we must all appear at the judgement seat of Christ, to give an account of the deeds done in the body.

Then by the mercies of God, let us present our bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is our reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world; but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good and acceptable, and perfect will of God." (Rom. 12:1&2.)

Oh, for the worth of a soul, how we should point all our weak brethren and sisters to God's word, for even at best we are all weak, and let us as followers of the blessed Christ be lights in the world, walk after the spirit and not after the flesh and finally by the help of God, "Therefore my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, for as much as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord." (1 Cor. 15:58.)

## **THE HEARTBEAT OF THE EARTH**

There is a movement afoot today that says that the earth is our friend and we should take care of it. We should not litter or pollute. For every tree we cut down we should plant another. We should not needlessly destroy animals or their habitats. All this sounds reasonable until you look at the underlying beliefs of those espousing these things.

The New Age Movement seeks to combine various aspects of pagan religion into a universal religion that denies Almighty God.



Various Indian Tribes indigenous to North America believe in the earth being "alive". So they worshiped the earth as a deity, as many also worshiped the moon, sun and stars. Many of us who have spent time researching and studying the New Age Movement understand that the forces of evil are behind it. Man alone cannot fight it. We need to call on God to help us. This movement began in the Garden of Eden when man first rebelled against God. The old serpent was there, trying to acquire a new kingdom for himself. By now he has fairly well succeeded.

There was a time when the church and the world were far apart. Today, most "churches" follow the ways of the world. There is little difference. The ways of the serpent have crept in, including New Age and One World ideas. They say we are citizens of the earth. The Bible tells Christians that we are citizens of heaven. They say there are many ways to reach God. The Bible says there is only one way: through Christ. They say that man, himself, is a God. The Bible says that God is a spirit. Those who worship Him must do so in SPIRIT and in TRUTH. They say truth is found everywhere. Jesus said, I am the way, the TRUTH and the life.

Here is another instance where we must be like the Bereans and search the scriptures so we are not carried away by false teaching. We must constantly be on our guard. The New Age philosophy is so common today. Most of it sounds so good to the inexperienced ear, that we must warn against it. For years the teachers of this false doctrine were subtle in their ways, but now they are becoming more and more blatant, realizing that they are succeeding in their deception. Do not be deceived, my beloved Brethren. We must trust in God, because He is able to deliver His children.

We all believe in conservation. Perhaps there are a few organizations that are genuine and not fronts for New Age teaching. We need to thoroughly investigate any organization that we support so that we are good stewards of the wealth the Lord has given us.

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**BIBLICAL NAMES AND TITLES  
GIVEN TO JESUS CHRIST**

Adam - I Cor. 15:45	Covert - Isa. 32:2
Advocate - I John 2:1	Creator - Isa. 43:15
Alpha And Omega - Rev. 1:8	David - Jer. 30:9
Amen - Rev. 3:14	Daysman - Job 9:33
Angel - Isa. 63:9	Day Star - II Pet. 1:19
Ancient Of Days - Dan. 7:22	Deliverer - Rom. 11:26
Anointed - Psalms 2:2	Desire Of All Nations - Hag. 2:7
Apostle - Heb. 3:1	Dew - Hosea 14:5
Author, Finisher Of Our Faith - Heb. 12:2	Diadem - Isa. 2:3
Babe - Luke 2:10	Door Of Sheep - John 10:7
Beginning Of Creation - Rev. 3:14	Eagle - Deut. 32:11
Begotten Of The Father - John 1:14	Elect - Isa. 42:1
Beloved - Eph. 1:6	Emmanuel - Matt. 1:23
Bishop - I Peter 2:25	Everlasting Father - Isa. 9:6
Blessed - I Tim. 6:15	Express Image - Heb. 1:3
Branch of Righteousness - Zech. 3:5	Faithful Witness - Rev. 1:5
Bread Of Life - John 6:48	Feeder - Isa. 40:11
Bridegroom - Matt. 9:15	First Begotten - Rev. 1:5
Bright And Morning Star - Rev. 22:16	Firstfruits - I Cor. 15:23
Brightness Of Father's Glory - Heb. 1:3	First And Last - Rev. 2:8
Captain - Heb. 2:10	Foundation - Isa. 28:16
Chief Corner Stone - Eph. 2:20	Fountain - Zech. 13:1
Child - Isa. 9:6	Forerunner - Heb. 6:20
Chosen - Matt. 12:18	Friend Of Sinners - Matt. 11:19
Christ - Matt. 1:16	Gift Of God - II Cor. 9:15
Consolation Of Israel - Luke 2:25	God - John 1:1
Covenant - Isa. 42:6	Governor - Matt. 2:6
Chosen - Matt. 12:18	Gracious - I Peter 2:3
Counselor - Isa. 9:6	Habitation - Psalms 91:9
Harmless - Heb. 7:26	Only Begotten - John 1:14
Head Of The Church - Col. 1:18	Passover - I Cor. 5:7
Heir Of All Things - Heb. 1:2	Potentate - I Tim. 6:15
High Priest - Heb. 3:1	Prince - Acts 3:15
Holy One Of God - Mark 1:24	Prophet - Luke 4:19
Holy Child - Acts 4:30	Propitiation - I John 2:2
Hope - I Tim. 1:1	Power of God - I Cor. 1:24

Image of God - Heb. 1:3	Purifier - Mal. 3:3
Immanuel - Matt. 1:23	Physician - Matt. 9:12
Immortal - I Tim. 1:17	Priest - Heb. 4:14
Invisible - I Tim. 1:17	Prince Of Peace - Isa. 9:6
Jesus - Matt. 1:21	Ransom - I Tim. 2:6
Judge - Acts 10:42	Reaper - Rev. 14:15
King - Matt. 21:5	Redeemer - Isa. 59:20
Lamb - Rev. 5:6	Resurrection - John 11:25
Leader - Isa. 55:4	Refiner - Mal. 3:3
Light - John 1:9	Righteousness - Jer. 23:6
Life - John 14:6	Rock - I Cor. 10:4
Lion Of Tribe Of Judah - Rev. 5:5	Rod And Branch - Isa. 11:1
Lord - Rom. 1:3	Root Of David - Rev. 22:16
Man - I Tim. 2:5	Ruler In Israel - Micah 5:2
Master - Matt. 8:19	Sacrifice - Eph. 5:2
Mediator - I Tim. 2:5	Sanctification - I Cor. 1:30
Merciful - Heb. 2:17	Seed Of Abraham - Gal. 3:29
Messiah - John 1:41	Seed Of The Woman - Gen. 3:15
Mighty God - Isa. 9:6	Seed Of David - II Tim. 2:8
Minister - Heb. 8:2	Second Man - I Cor. 15:42
Morning Star - Rev. 2:28	Servant - Isa. 42:1
Nazarene - Matt. 2:23	Shepherd - John 10:11
Offspring Of David - Rev. 22:16	Shiloh - Gen. 49:10
Son of God - Matt. 4:3	Testator - Heb. 9:16-17
Son Of Man - Matt. 8:20	Truth - John 14:6
Sower - Matt. 13:3	Vine - John 15:1
Spirit - I Cor. 15:45	Way - John 14:6
Stone Refused - Matt. 21:42	Wisdom OF God - I Cor. 1:24
Sun Of Righteousness - Mal. 4:2	Witness - Rev. 1:5
Surety - Heb. 7:22	Wonderful - Isa. 9:6
Worthy - Rev. 5:12	

Many of these names are mentioned in more than one reference, but I have chosen to include only one.

Obtained from Cruden's Concordance.

Compiled by the late Bro. Paul R. Myers



## NEWS ITEMS

### MONITOR RENEWALS

The time for subscription renewals is here again. The Editor is trying to get the mailing list transferred onto computer. It would be appreciated if full addresses of all subscribers be sent in. It will make the computer entry easier. Thank you.

The Editor

### SWALLOW FALLS, MARYLAND

Another revival at Swallow Falls, August 18 through 27 has gone down in history. Bro. Rudy Shaffer brought the Word to us thoughtfully and well. Although there were no additions to the church it gave us encouragement to keep on keeping on for our Saviour. So we might be accepted in that number that will inhabit that beautiful City the New Jerusalem with our Lord and Redeemer for eternity.

We had fairly good crowds, but were sorry more people were not interested in the Gospel Message any more. It is another sign that the Lord's coming draweth near. "But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be."

We did appreciate the interest others showed by the number coming from other congregations throughout the meeting. Twenty-eight communicants surrounded the Lord's table, with Elder Paul Ness officiating. Elders Virgil Leatherman and Rudy Shaffer assisted.

Please pray for the Swallow Falls Congregation. We always enjoy your presence with us. Thanks for coming.

Sister Ruth M. Snyder, Cor.

### THANK YOU

I would like to thank all the Brethren and Sisters for the cards, letters and telephone calls for my 93rd birthday.

I appreciate the kindness shown to me from everyone.

May God richly bless each and everyone.

In Christian love,

Sister Clara Gunderman

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## **ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR JANUARY 1996**

January 7 - Jesus, the Word - John 1:1-14.

1. Explain the phrase, "And the Word was God."
2. How was the darkness suppose to comprehend the light?

January 14 - The Witness of John, the Baptist - John 1:15-34.

1. Why did the Pharisees think John the Baptist was the Christ?
2. How was John's baptism different from what Christ would baptize with?

January 21 - Come and See - John 1:35-51

1. How was Jesus the Lamb of God?
2. What things convinced the disciples of John the Baptist that Jesus was the Messiah?

January 28 - Whatsoever He Saith Unto Thee, Do It - John 2:1-25.

1. Why was the mother of Jesus anticipating a miracle?
2. What sign were the Jews expecting from Jesus regarding cleansing of the Temple?

## **YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR JANUARY 1996**

January 7 - Our Resolutions - Luke 16:1-17.

1. How was the steward's resolution used for evil instead of good?
2. What should be our resolve in the small things God asks of us?

January 14 - Our Shallowness - Ez. 33:30-32, Mark 4:16-17,  
John 6:64-69, Eph. 14:14-16.

1. Explain the connection between hearing and doing.
2. How is doing related to believing?

January 21 - Monuments - Jer. 1:17-19, Gal. 2:8-10, Rev. 3:10-12.

1. What made Jeremiah an iron pillar in the sight of God's people?
2. How can we become a pillar in God's Temple?

January 28 - Living Forever - Luke 18:18-20, John 3:14-21, 36.

1. What was the root problem behind the ruler's wealth?
2. What is the first basic step in receiving Eternal Life?